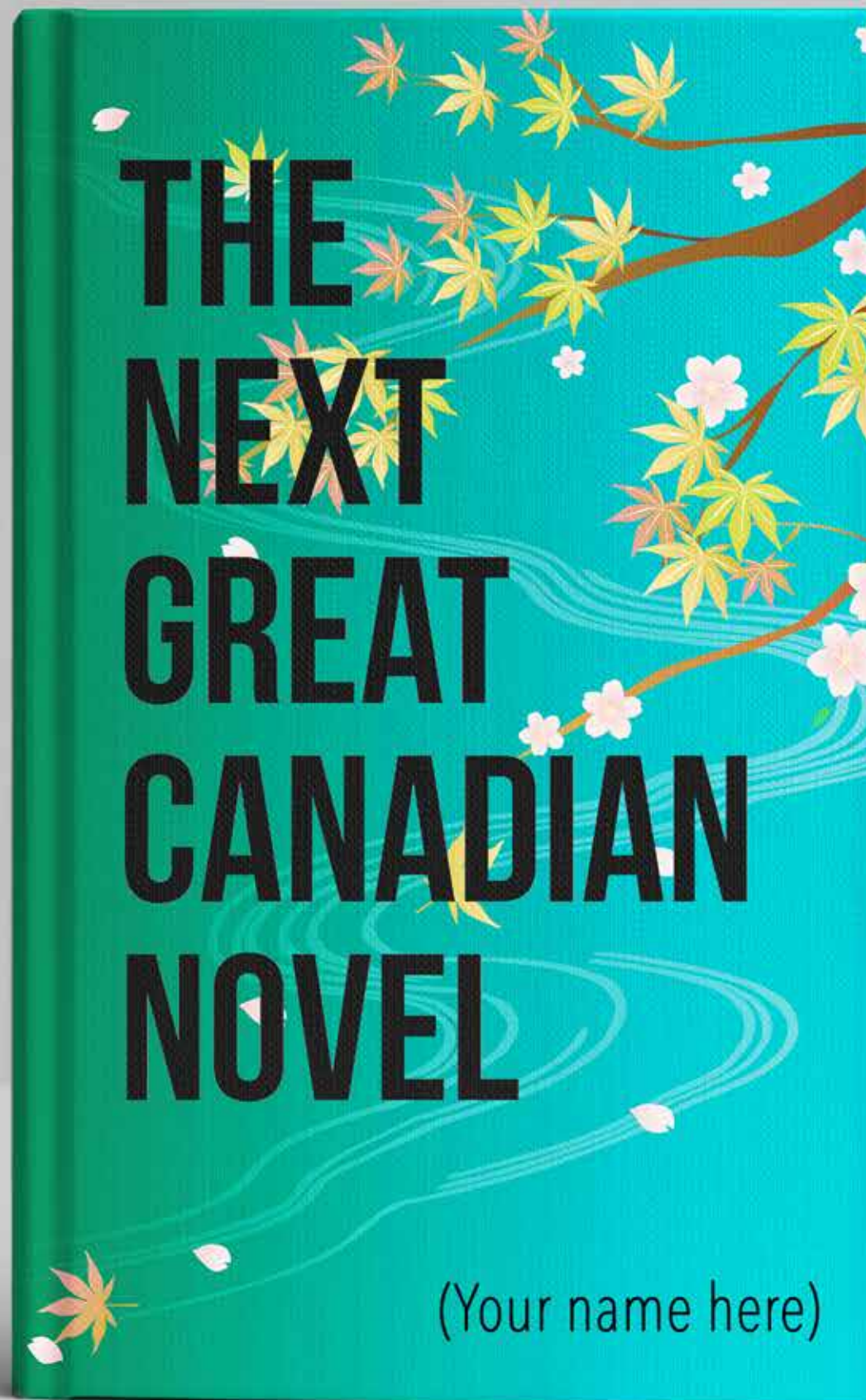


the otherpress

The Douglas College Newspaper Since 1976

Volume 44 September 26, 2017 Issue 4





Writing is a strange thing. And please, just hear me out before you dismiss this as just another Lettitor written about writing, as terribly meta as that may be. I mean, yes, this is just another Lettitor written about writing, but what kind of an Other Press Editor-in-Chief would I be if I didn't try my hand at it at some point?

So... writing. I've always been enamored by the idea of being a writer. I've always romanticized the act of creating something out of nothing but scratches on paper (or keys smashed onto a screen, nowadays) with the writer's own mind supplying the flow.

Writing comes in, quite literally, all shapes and sized. Whether it's a 14 book, million-word epic—here's looking at you, *Wheel of Time*—a 500-word article posted in a student paper, or a poem of only a few

small-but-all-the-more-significant words, it still all comes down to that one constant: Someone pulled from these 26 letters and created this thing basically out of nowhere.

As a kid I always had my nose in a book. Going on a long road trip to a hockey game? I'd catch up with Harry and the Hogwarts gang. Can't fall asleep? Check in on Frodo and his fancy ring. Even now, I keep a copy of *Game of Thrones* in my jacket pocket because my phone doesn't get service during my 15-minute commute downtown on the Canada Line—and god help us all if I have to go 15 minutes without some form of distraction.

I never seriously considered writing as a potential career path. Becoming a successful novelist seemed as rare as winning the lottery. I doubted I had experienced enough to ever make it as a poet. I really like eating, and the idea of

becoming a starving artist for my craft never really vibed with my constant appetite.

It was in this paper that I realized I actually could do it, and only suffer a few of the usual ailments. Journalism is one of the newer forms of writing (I've disqualified tweets, if only for this one time), yet even nowadays it seems old. Papers are struggling, the industry is changing, and even our little paper here at Douglas College can feel the shift.

But it's still worth doing. Between the stress, the constant pressure to be on top of everything that's going on, the angry Facebook comments, and the harassment that comes along with being considered "The Media," it's all worthwhile simply because of what it is at its core: Taking these 26 little letters and turning it into something that can inform, and educate, and—if you're really good, and a little

lucky—make a difference.

So I found a way to become a writer, and here I am, writing. I still keep the first cheque I ever made from this paper framed and on my desk (as completely cliché as that may be) because that's the first \$50 I ever made by making scratches on paper, and it reminds me of just how insanely awesome I found that to be in the first place.

I still do find it insanely awesome, of course, but sometimes—especially when it begins to feel like excruciatingly painful work—it's a nice reminder to have.

Cheers,

Editor-in-Chief

the otherpress

Rm 1020 – 700 Royal Ave.
Douglas College
New Westminster, BC V3L 5B2
☎ 604.525.3542

Chandler Walter
Editor-in-Chief

✉ editor@theotherpress.ca

Jake Wray
News Editor

✉ news@theotherpress.ca

Davie Wong
Sports Editor

✉ sports@theotherpress.ca

Jessica Berget
Opinions Editor

✉ opinions@theotherpress.ca

Mercedes Deutscher
Social Media Coordinator
@theotherpress

🏠 theotherpress.ca

✉ editor@theotherpress.ca

📺 /theotherpress

f/DouglasOtherPress

Rebecca Peterson
Assistant Editor

✉ assistant@theotherpress.ca

Caroline Ho
Arts Editor

✉ arts@theotherpress.ca

Brittney MacDonald
Life & Style Editor

✉ lifeandstyle@theotherpress.ca

Klara Woldenga
Humour Editor

✉ humour@theotherpress.ca

Kwiigay iiwans
Layout Manager

✉ layout@theotherpress.ca

Angela Ho
Business Manager

Jacey Gibb
Distribution Manager

Joel McCarthy
Graphics Manager

Elizabeth Jacob
Production Assistant

Cara Seccafien
Illustrator

Colten Kamlade
Staff Reporter

Greg Waldock, Jillian McMullen, and Katie Czenczek
Staff Writers

Analyn Cuarto
Staff Photographer

Jerrison Oracion
Senior Columnist

Ed Appleby, Lauren Dinwoodie, Clive Ramroop, Sophie Isbister, Cazzy Lewchuk, Sameer Siddiqui,
Contributor

- ✓ The Other Press has been Douglas College's student newspaper since 1976. Since 1978 we have been an autonomous publication, independent of the student union. We are a registered society under the Society Act of British Columbia, governed by an eight-person board of directors appointed by our staff. Our head office is located in the New Westminster campus.
- ✓ The Other Press is published weekly during the fall and winter semesters, and monthly during the summer. We receive our funding from a student levy collected through tuition fees every semester at registration, and from local and national advertising revenue. The Other Press is a member of the Canadian University Press (CUP), a syndicate of student newspapers that includes papers from all across Canada.
- ✓ The Other Press reserves the right to choose what we will publish, and we will not publish material that is hateful, obscene, or condones or promotes illegal activities. Submissions may be edited for clarity and brevity if necessary. All images used are copyright to their respective owners.

- ✓ Campfire prohibition lifted
 - ✓ Global warming speeds up
 - ✓ Vancouver activists declare support for fish farm occupation
- And more!



CPAC launches new educational tools

› Interactive website showcases Canada's political ridings

Jake Wray
News Editor

The Cable Public Affairs Channel (CPAC), a network that provides streams of Canada's House of Commons, has launched a new website as part of a multimedia education initiative.

The website, www.route338.ca, features an interactive political map of Canada, with information about each federal riding in the country such as biographies of current MPs, photos from the ridings, economic facts and lists of Indigenous peoples within a given riding. The map also has information about senators.

A section of the website, called CPAC in Focus, is frequently updated with

articles and videos about current political issues in Canada. Some of the most recent explainers in this section include an article about the NAFTA negotiations and an article about a parliamentary committee questioning commissioners of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

The Route 338 site includes a video series called *Day in the Life*, which shows various MPs as they work in Ottawa and in their home ridings. Two MPs from British Columbia are featured in the series: Jenny Kwan, who represents the Vancouver East riding, and Dan Albas, who represents the Central Okanagan-Similkameen-Nicola riding.

Alongside the website, CPAC is also offering a mobile app called CPAC Quiz Canada, which is a multiplayer

Canadian trivia quiz game.

Catherine Cano, president and general manager of CPAC, said in a press release that the new multimedia initiative is intended to boost engagement in Canadian democracy.

"Now more than ever before, we recognize that democracy is precious but fragile, even in mature democracies like Canada," Cano said in the release. "CPAC Route 338 is a vital resource because the earlier we study and learn about our democracy, the better our chance to have a society that is curious, knowledgeable, and engaged."

The website and app are paired with 11 learning activities—designed by CPAC—that are geared for primary and secondary students.

In addition to the learning activities,

CPAC is also providing several 8-by-11 metre floor maps of Canada. The maps, which also include information about federal ridings, will tour across Canada to various schools, and will also pair with the website and learning activities.

CPAC developed with the Royal Canadian Geographical Society to develop the maps.

"Learning about democracy has never been more important," John Geiger, CEO of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, said in a press release. "Our partnership with CPAC brings together the best in geographical and political education resources to give students and newcomers the information they need to understand how democracy works in Canada."

BC NDP aims to ban union and corporate funding

› Campaign finance reforms were major issue in last election

Jillian McMullen
Staff Writer

The newly-formed BC NDP government has introduced legislation that would cap the dollar amount of personal donations allowed to political parties, one week after the BC Liberals put forward a similar bill.

British Columbia is one of the few provinces that does not currently have laws in place limiting contributions. "The wild west financing of the past will

come to an end. It's time people get to the center of our politics: Not people with deep pockets, but people," said premier John Horgan at a press conference announcing this new bill on September 18.

The new government, while in opposition, was highly critical of the Liberal Party's fundraising strategies, often referred to as "cash for access" events. "This bill is what we committed to pass. This bill is what we campaigned on," said Horgan.

The recent Liberal bill was the same they failed to pass in the spring

before the non-confidence vote that sparked the May 9 election. With several similar provisions, such as banning union and corporate funding to parties as well as donations made from outside the province, the Liberal bill set limits at \$2,500 for personal donations, while the NDP suggest lowering individual contributions to \$1,200.

The NDP bill has caused some controversy, as it would subsidize political parties using taxpaying money in the years following the bill's implementation. Although not an

“The wild west financing of the past will come to an end.”
—John Horgan, BC premier

uncommon practice in other Canadian provinces, Horgan had promised several months ago that taxpayer money would not be used to fund political parties.

The votes would be calculated on the votes received by each party in the last election. This would begin at \$2.50 per vote in 2018, decreasing slowly until 2022 when it would be phased out, according to a CBC News article. They would also receive a reimbursement totaling \$11-million in last year's election on staff and office costs, according to the same article.



Campfire prohibition lifted

› Cool weather helps contain wildfires

Colten Kamlade
Staff Reporter

If you have missed roasting marshmallows over a fire, this week might be your last chance before the cold weather sets in.

The campfire ban for the Coastal Fire Centre, a region that includes Metro Vancouver, was lifted last week. Though this might be cause for celebration, there are still several restrictions on what you can and cannot do. Open burning—which includes fireworks and firecrackers, sky lanterns, binary exploding targets, and burn barrels or burn cages—is still prohibited.

According to BC Wildfire Service, the cooler weather that has finally replaced the summer heat has allowed firefighting crews to make solid progress against many of the fires. Moreover, precipitation along the coast has lowered the risk of wildfires, allowing for more lenient restrictions.

The air quality in all regions

has also greatly improved. A BC Wildfire Service chart shows low health risk across the board. This may be a welcome respite for those who struggle with asthma or other breathing complications.

The remaining wildfires are mostly located in the Southeast Fire Centre. However, the Plateau Fire, the largest fire in BC history, is located in the Cariboo Fire Centre. Thankfully, because of how much land was burned this year, it is likely that next summer's fire season will be less severe. The total number of fires burning this year was, surprisingly, not much more than the average. It was the number of hectares burned that contributed to this being the worst wildfire season in BC's history.

Though the wildfire season is coming to a close, there are still many who are being deeply affected by it. The BC Wildfire Service website says that forest fire prevention is a "shared responsibility between the public, business, local governments and the Province."

Certification

IT PAYS TO KNOW

Searching for a Career? Choose Payroll

Becoming a Payroll Compliance Practitioner (PCP) will ensure you have the compliance knowledge and payroll skills needed for success.

- Employers look for this certification when hiring and pay a 5-10% higher salary to those who have achieved it (Robert Half's 2017 Accounting & Finance Salary Guide).
- Payroll Certification broadens the knowledge base and skill set for Business, HR and Accounting students.
- PCP Certification requires four key courses offered at many colleges and online.

The Canadian Payroll Association can guide you on your path, try our online course demo today.

"Having my Payroll Compliance Practitioner (PCP) certification has given me greater confidence in my job. With the wealth of knowledge I obtained through the PCP program, I can answer questions quickly and accurately."

Nadine H., PCP
Payroll Administrator



For more information
visit payroll.ca





Global warming speeds up

› British weather service says Pacific Ocean temperatures have flipped, increasing warming

Colten Kamlade
Staff Reporter

The “end of the recent slowdown in global warming” has come to an end, according to the Met Office, the UK’s weather service.

This “is due to a flip in Pacific sea-surface temperatures,” the Met Office announced earlier this month. The cause of this “flip” is the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, “which entered its positive phase, warming the tropics, the west coast of North America and the globe overall.” According to The National

Centres for Environmental Information website, “the Pacific Decadal Oscillation is often described as a long-lived El Niño-like pattern of Pacific climate variability.” Essentially, a change in wind patterns will cause the climate to continue warming at a faster pace.

David Waddington, chair of earth and environmental science at Douglas College, confirmed the accuracy of the Met Office’s statements.

“My understanding is that the Pacific Decadal Oscillation is very real, and that the switch to positive phase occurred a couple

of years ago. So, these statements are not controversial,” he said.

Environmentalists warn of the far-reaching effects of climate change. Waddington provided climate predictions for areas surrounding Douglas College campuses.

“As far as BC climate over the next 100 years is concerned, one of the key people is botanist Dr. Richard Hebda of the Royal BC Museum. He gave a talk at Douglas a couple of years ago, and he said that the interior of BC would warm considerably, resulting in dry desert conditions in South-

central BC. Of the coast, he said that we could expect more extremes of climate—more snow, more drought, windstorms—together with increased precipitation overall,” Waddington said.

Even closer to home, Waddington said that “rising sea level will affect the low-lying areas of Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Pitt Meadows, Surrey, Richmond, North Delta, Ladner,” and that “winter flooding events will occur when storms combine with high tides, and overtop the dikes along the ocean side and Fraser River.”

“We live in interesting times.”

Vancouver activists declare support for fish farm occupation

› Indigenous groups have been camped out at farm in Strait of Georgia since August

Jake Wray
News Editor

Watershed Watch Salmon Society, a Vancouver-based advocacy group, has sent a letter to Dominic Leblanc, minister of fisheries, oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard, voicing their support for Indigenous groups who are occupying two fish farms.

Representatives from Indigenous groups including the Musgamagw Dzawada’enuxw Nation and the Namgis First Nation have, since August, been camped out in protests at two fish farms owned by Marine Harvest and located on the Broughton Archipelago in the Strait of Georgia. The group is calling on Leblanc and other government officials to end fish farming in British Columbia.

Stan Proboszcz, science advisor for the Watershed Watch Salmon Society, said in a press release that his organization wrote in support of the occupiers because the Ministry of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard hasn’t acted against fish farms despite evidence that shows the farms are dangerous.

“We support the rights and title of these First Nations,” Proboszcz said in the release. “There’s ample scientific evidence showing fish farms threaten wild salmon. However, [the ministry]



Photo by Bruce McMorran

has taken no significant precautionary action regarding this evidence, risking the loss of this valuable resource, and leaving many communities facing the impacts of this loss.”

Proboszcz accused the ministry of favouring industry over the environment.

“Many of BC’s wild salmon populations are in decline and [the ministry] continues to put the desires of the salmon farming industry before the interests of BC’s wild salmon and

citizens,” he said in the release.

Ernest Alfred, a hereditary chief from the Namgis First Nation and a representative of the occupation group, thanked Watershed Watch Salmon Society for their support in a Facebook post on September 18.

“Thank you Watershed Watch for speaking out. Serious and drastic measures must be [taken] today!” he wrote, adding that he is confident the occupation will be successful. “After almost a month of observing the fish

farm at Swanson Island, it is very clear to me that we will remove the fish from every farm in our waters ... Marine Harvest, consider this notice before making anymore plans. Business as usual for the fish farm operations in our waters are over! Start packing!”

Leblanc said he is aware of the occupation, but he did not respond to the occupiers’ demands, according to a report in the Times Colonist on August 29.

- ✓ 'Destiny' sequel a huge step forward for Bungie
 - ✓ 'Literature Alive' presents Carleigh Barker
 - ✓ The matching game
- And more!

A comedy drama about the food industry

> 'Okja' film review

Jerrison Oracion
Senior Columnist

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

In 1995, there was an episode in *The Simpsons* where Lisa becomes a vegetarian and it shows how food is made in a humorous way. Then, in the Richard Linklater film *Fast Food Nation* (2006), the food industry is shown in a serious and shocking way. Now, the director of *The Host*, Bong Joon-Ho, has crafted a film about the food industry like you've never seen before that is serious and at the same time may make you laugh.

The film begins in 2007 with Lucy Mirando (Tilda Swinton) announcing that her company has developed superpigs that will be used to produce sustainable meat products, and they hold a contest for various farmers to raise the pigs until one of them raises the biggest pig. Fast-forward to the present in a rural area in South Korea and we meet Mija (Anh Seo-Hyun) with the pig that she raised over the past 10 years named Okja. When she finds out that Okja is the biggest pig and the company takes Okja to New York City for a superpig showcase, Mija goes on a journey to bring Okja back to the mountains. Along the way she meets a group of protesters that

are part of the Animal Liberation Front, led by a man named Jay (Paul Dano) with another member of the A.L.B. simply named "K" (Steven Yeun) who translates for Mija, and she encounters various other people in the company.

Since *Okja* is a Netflix original, the film began a debate during the Cannes Film Festival this year if a film should be shown on the big screen first before various other ways. When I watched the film, I thought that it looks like a big-screen film. It is not like a more traditional HBO movie, but it looks like something you would see on TV. While *Okja* is an American and Korean film, it has a Korean look throughout it.

Bong and Jon Ronson's screenplay created a lot of funny moments and interesting people. This includes Lucy being the spokesperson of a company that supposedly makes sustainable meat products even though they do not; Jake Gyllenhaal playing an animal-loving scientist who hosts a show to promote the superpig competition, and who we later find out is very abusive to animals; and a truck driver (played by Choi Woo-shik) who transports Okja to the airport while saying some startling things.

During *Okja's* press conference at the Cannes Film Festival this year, many people who were involved in the film said that it will impact a lot of people



Screenshot from 'Okja' Via Netflix

when they watch the film. The film shows things that the food industry does not want you to know and they are as shocking as the things seen in *Fast Food Nation* (which Paul Dano was also in). Anh said during the press conference that when *Okja* was filmed, she ate less meat. Also, there is a scene in which a pig gets shot. If you do not want to see that, do not watch this film. Overall it has many aspects that might cause you to become vegetarian and rethink the food industry.

While watching the film is an experience, it will have a bigger impact if you watch it on the big screen. Stay during the credits to see a bonus ending. However, if you are watching the film on Netflix, you can fast forward 1:58:19 for that ending. *Okja* is available now on Netflix, and the film will also be shown in a special screening during the Vancouver International Film Festival on September 30 at The Centre, with Bong as a special guest.

Nostalgia bomb

> How 'Sonic Mania' backpedals to move forward

Brittney MacDonald
Life & Style Editor

It's no secret that Sonic the Hedgehog hasn't really had a hit game within its franchise since the demise of the Sega Genesis. Both critics and fans have panned the most recent games, citing not only their abundant bugs, but also the overall disconnect from what made the original *Sonic the Hedgehog 1* and *2* so commercially successful. In an effort to rectify this, Sega has gone back to basics—8-bit, to be precise.

The new *Sonic Mania* is an 8-bit side-scrolling ode to the origins of Sega's favourite blue hedgehog. Stylistically it looks like it belongs in the early '90s; however, it is not a remaster. *Sonic Mania* is completely new, both narratively and in its gameplay. Though the narrative is simplistic—stop Eggman from replacing everything with machinery and robots—you face new enemies, and you can reap the benefits of modern programming technology. This means that in addition to the basic abilities that were available in *Sonic 1* and *2*, you also have some new ones because the programming is no longer limited by the space available on the game cartridge.

Though this seems new and exciting, Sega is simply following in the footsteps of Nintendo. Nintendo released *Mega Man 9* in 2008—though released on the Wii, PlayStation 3, and Xbox 360, *Mega Man 9* was notable because it was created to be entirely reminiscent of *Mega Man 2*, a game that was originally released in 1988 on the original Nintendo Entertainment System (NES). Learning from Nintendo, Sega took this a step further by also updating the animation quality and response time. So, though *Sonic Mania* looks similar to *Sonic the Hedgehog 2*, if you were boot up a copy of *Sonic 2* on a Sega Genesis and compare the two, *Sonic Mania* would appear a lot sleeker and be more aesthetically pleasing—though the levels are still just as difficult to beat!

The reason why *Sonic Mania* seems like such a labour of love is because it is. The Sonic games from the '90s have such a cult following that they actually have a huge community of fans dedicated to making ports of them (porting is when someone converts a game meant to be played on one system or console, so that it runs on a different one). This is often done on classic games that haven't been remastered, and is usually done for free considering it actually breaks copyright laws. This type of community

“ The new *Sonic Mania* is an 8-bit side-scrolling ode to the origins of Sega's favourite blue son.”



Image Via Sega

also breeds fan-made titles—games that fans have made, that look like their classic counterparts, but with new levels and enemies. Sound familiar?

It is among these superfans that Sega sought to find people who would create a game that would capitalize on the nostalgia of Sonic's glory days. In doing so they found Christian Whitehead, an active member of the Sonic port and fan community, who assembled a team of game designers who had cut their teeth

making popular fan-made Sonic games online. Because of this, *Sonic Mania* has been able to recapture what made the original '90s games so good in a way that also embraces the occasional good points of the more recent games—such as more diverse multiplayer modes and objective orientated racing. The end result is a game that fans of the franchise, like myself, want to play—because it was made by people just like us.



Screenshot from 'The Princess Bride' Via Twentieth Century Fox

The 30th anniversary of 'The Princess Bride'

› 30 years already?! 'Inconceivable!'

Clive Ramroop
Contributor

"Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die."

What happens when you combine a commoner-turned-princess, amicable banter during a fierce sword fight, a battle of wits over poisoned wine, a rhyming giant, a six-fingered murderer, a disgruntled miracle worker, and an evil prince taunted as a "warthog-faced buffoon"? You get a satirical tale of "fencing, fighting, torture, revenge, giants, monsters, chases, escapes, true love, miracles..." and a movie that was only a modest success at the box office. So how did this charming, witty little film gain such popularity that it's become a classic within the past generation?

Perhaps because, even though the marketing was uncertain for its release on September 25, 1987, the film poked

lighthearted fun at traditional fairy-tale tropes long before *Shrek* did the same. "She gets kidnapped, he gets killed, but it all turns out okay," said William Goldman on the short documentary "As You Wish," a special feature on the movie's DVD.

The Princess Bride came to life in 1973 as a book written by Goldman, as a purported abridged version (or "the good parts version," as stated on the cover) of a fictitious story by the equally fictitious author "S. Morgenstern." This novel was inspired by requests from Goldman's daughters for story ideas—one suggested a princess, the other wanted a bride, and he merged both ideas. Unlike other novel adaptations into film, this movie is presented as a grandfather (Peter Falk) reading the eponymous book to his sick, bed-ridden grandson (Fred Savage). The movie's on-screen adventure is bookended (yes, that's a pun; shut up) by the grandfather's storytelling, and occasionally interrupted by the grandson's

reactions to unexpected twists in the plot. But the story's action, mostly without narration, plays out in such engaging fashion that it is easy to forget about the grandfather and grandson until a well-timed interruption pops up.

With a solid cast listing some strong names among the supporting players—Billy Crystal as Miracle Max; plus, Goldman wrote the character Fezzik with the late André The Giant in mind—let's not forget about the quotable dialogue in the cleverly written script. "You put down your rock, I'll put down my sword, and we'll try and kill each other like civilized people?" "Life is pain. Anyone who says differently is selling something." "Why don't you give me a nice paper cut and pour lemon juice on it?!" "Have fun storming the castle!" And of course, that immortal reply to the oft-repeated "Inconceivable!" cries: "You keep using that word. I do not think it means what you think it means."

But because of the movie's unique blend of such diverse elements as swashbuckling action, comedy, romance, and adventure, 20th Century Fox didn't know exactly how to market the movie, reaping a weak box-office return. However, it would instead gain a second life due to its home video release and positive reputation as a fun movie spread via word of mouth—a fate shared with *The Wizard Of Oz* (1939), which was also a box-office disaster in its original theatrical run, but became a classic in televised airings and on video. Indeed, *The Princess Bride* was eventually considered "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant" (according to the National Film Preservation Board's criteria) enough that, in 2016, it was inducted into the National Film Registry and preserved in the US Library of Congress.

Watch this movie. I mean it.

Next stop: Vancouver International Film Festival

› A look at this year's lineup

Jerrison Oracion
Senior Columnist

The Toronto International Film Festival ended last week and the awards were given out. This is the beginning of the race to the Academy Awards and the Canadian Screen Awards. While the stars have left Toronto, some of them are going to their next stop: Vancouver.

The Vancouver International Film Festival is the next big film festival in Canada. Compared to TIFF where they show a lot of highly anticipated film and famous people, VIFF has a diverse number of films to show, some of which will get attention in the long run. This year's edition of the festival looks like it will be exciting as TIFF, with a lot of interesting films being shown with special guests and talks through their programs, which they call Streams.

The opening film in VIFF this year

is local Vancouver filmmaker Mina Shum's next film *Meditation Park* which talks about an affair Chinatown style. The film has Sandra Oh and Don McKellar working together again, after previously working on the hit Canadian film *Last Night* (1988).

There are plenty of exciting films being shown in the festival this year, including: Andy Serkis' directorial first film about accessibility, *Breathe*; Michael Haneke's next film *Happy End*; an indigenous hockey film, the highly anticipated *Indian Horse*; and Ruben Östlund's next film about art, *The Square*, which got the Palme d'Or in the Cannes Film Festival this year. Interestingly, the new season of *Top of the Lake: China Girl* will be shown in its entirety as a six-hour film. The Netflix film *Okja* will also be shown in a rare theatre screening, with director Bong Joon-Ho being a special guest in the screening.

The BC Spotlight program this

year has a lot of great films, and any of them could get awards. One of those films is Wayne Wapeemukwa's first film *Luk'Luk'l* which talks about East Vancouver during the Winter Olympic Games in 2010. The film recently got the award for Best Canadian First Feature in TIFF this year. Also, there is Kyle Rideout's romantic comedy *Public Schooled*, which talks about a home schooled student experiencing public school life for the first time, and it also has *Kim's Convenience* star Andrea Bang in it. On the other hand, Bang's sister, *The Interview*'s Diana Bang, is in another film in the festival with Jason James's comedy drama *Entanglement*, which talks about a depressed man dating a woman. There is the documentary *Shut Up and Say Something*, which talks about slam poet Shane Koyczan and how he reunites with his father. It will be shown on Knowledge Network later this fall.

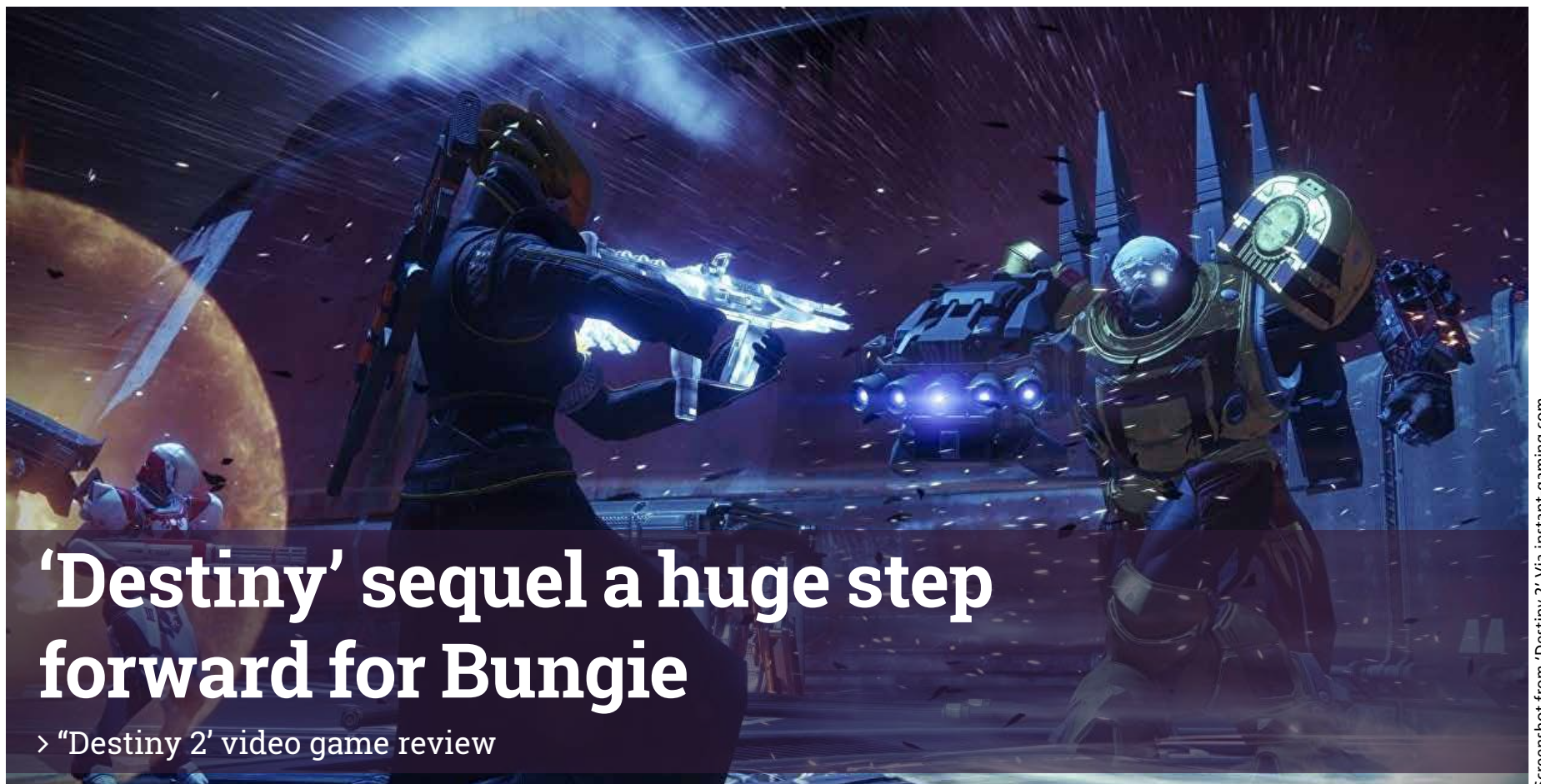
Another Canadian film to point

out is Cory Bowles' controversial film *Black Cop*, which talks about an African-Canadian cop doing a mission that could endanger his life because of his race.

The VIFF will also have talks with various people in the TV industry including Jeremy Podeswa and Greg Middleton from *Game of Thrones*, Emmy winner Ane Crabtree from *The Handmaid's Tale*, and David Slade from the Emmy-winning show *Black Mirror*. The festival will end with Todd Haynes' next film *Wonderstruck*, and it is unknown if Haynes will be at the screening. While some films will have special guests, it is unknown which film will do so, and you have to see a film to find out if it will have a special guest.

The festival this year will allow everyone to see films that they are excited about and to find out which ones will eventually get awards. The Vancouver International Film Festival will take place between September 28 and October 13.

“ VIFF has a diverse number of films to show, some of which will get attention in the long run.”



Screenshot from 'Destiny 2' Via instant-gaming.com

'Destiny' sequel a huge step forward for Bungie

> "Destiny 2" video game review

Greg Waldock
Staff Writer

★★★★★

Destiny 2 is everything the original *Destiny* needed to be at launch. The first *Destiny* was bold and beautiful, but was nearly unplayable due to bugs, a bizarre company policy on communication, and less content than a bag of chips. Its sequel builds on its successes and avoids the failures that nearly killed the franchise, resulting in a thrilling game that, despite a lack of content, manages to be full of personality and fun. Bungie has been nothing if not incredibly

daring with the *Destiny* series, even if it doesn't always pay off. The original was an incredible game with a rich, weird lore, a lot of high-concept science fiction ideas, and a very interesting approach to fusing MMO mechanics with a fast-paced combat system. The sequel continues most of this, keeping the good of the first but with the addition of the past three years of experience for Bungie. It's cleaner and more refined, and much less of a well-polished skeleton than the first. Unfortunately, *Destiny 2* still doesn't have a lot of content once the campaign is over. *Destiny 1* was unbelievably barebones at launch. The plot was short and largely nonsensical, and the postgame content was unrewarding and repetitive. It grew exponentially better with each new piece of downloadable content (DLC), creating

a diverse game with a ton of activities. *Destiny 2* feels like *Destiny 1* did at launch, rather than a continuation of the amazing stories that happened over the past three years. It's still barebones. It's still obviously in need of hotfixes and add-ons and DLC to feel like a full game. It's much less of a buggy unbalanced mess, but it's very obviously incomplete. It's disappointing to have to pay another \$40 to \$60 and wait several years for all the DLC. This time around, though, things are looking more optimistic for the franchise. It's no longer split between two very different console generations—which was a colossal impairment to *Destiny 1*. It's already looking better organized, with more community communication and free events. The plot is coherent and damn fun, and the main antagonist is

a fascinating guy to fight against. The weapon designs are sleeker, the abilities are flashier, and the banter between Cayde-6, Zavala, and Ikora is back and better than ever. The art direction is ridiculously good and Bungie took full use of the new console generation, making heavily forested environments that mesh nicely with the artificial sci-fi designs. If you enjoyed *Destiny 1* after the horrendous launch and many hiccups, you'll immediately fall in love with *Destiny 2*. It's a continuation of everything you loved in the first and promises to be another incredible journey when the rest of the DLC is released. *Destiny 2* shows how far Bungie has come since their *Halo* days and demonstrates their drive to keep innovating and refining their strange little series.

'Literature Alive' presents Carleigh Barker

> Former Douglas student gives reading of debut novel

Jillian McMullen
Staff Writer

Literature Alive, run by the Creative Writing Department, welcomed back former Douglas student and Other Press contributor Carleigh Baker on September 20 to read from her debut novel *Bad Endings*. The novel is a collection of short stories published earlier this year, which is currently a finalist for the 2017 City of Vancouver Book Award.

Baker, an Indigenous writer, spoke candidly about the inspiration for her work. She said it began seven years ago around Sixth Street and St. George here in New West, just as her then-marriage began to fall apart. This prompted her to ask herself what she would do if she could do anything. Her answer was to write, so she enrolled herself in the writing program at Douglas. "I needed something I would have no excuse to skip, even if I slept in," she jokingly explained. She is currently working on her MFA at UBC.

Adding that most of the stories

in *Bad Endings* began during her time at Douglas, Baker read from the introductory story of the collection, titled "War of Attrition," inspired by her time handing out Metro newspapers at 22nd Street Station.

The story explores her rivalry with another paper distributor at the station—a Ukrainian mail-order bride disguised as a Russian mail-order bride—and the beginning of the friendship born out of it. "I really like dark humour and female friendships," said Baker.

She then read from another story, admitting it was based heavily on someone who works for the City of Vancouver. She ended the evening taking questions from students and offering career advice based on her experience in the publishing industry.

"A lot is based on who you know," said the writer.

Literature Alive events are held periodically throughout the year. These readings are free and open to the public, so keep an eye out around campus for posters announcing the next event.



Photo by Jillian McMullen

'Inhabited Lives' inhabits Amelia Douglas Gallery

› Exhibit explores Chinatown, animal use, motherhood, and more

Caroline Ho
Arts Editor

The Amelia Douglas Gallery's newest exhibit takes gallery visitors through four distinct series of artworks, each inspiring viewers to consider their relationships with the world and its inhabitants in different ways. *Inhabited Lives*, featuring the prints, paintings, and other mixed media works of artist Shannon Harvey, opened in the gallery on September 14. As Harvey told the *Other Press* in an interview at the exhibit's opening reception, the four series of works encompass most of what she has produced over the past six years, and she's excited to have the large space of the gallery to display her art. The *Underground* series is a set of abstract acrylic and ink paintings that Harvey started about six years ago, after Harvey's daughter was born. Creating these pieces was the artist's way of working through the emotions of being a new mother, although she didn't fully realize this connection until later. Harvey said she doesn't often work in abstract, so she found the experience of creating these pieces freeing because of how viewers can approach the art through their own interpretations. Some works, such as "Mother and Child," clearly invoke the idea of motherhood; others are less explicit, such as "Gyre" with its bold lines and swirling patterns. Yet all of the pieces in the *Underground* series convey a sense of free-flowing life. The *Animal Icons* series is less abstract, but no less impactful. This group of prints explores the relationship between humans and animals and the question of raising animals ethically for food

and other human purposes. The prints show small-scale farmers and other individuals working humanely and respectfully with animals, such as Joe Wasp, a man who performs ethical relocations of bee and wasp nests. Harvey said the style of this series was heavily inspired by old Polish posters of the '50s and '60s. The prints are all mainly black and white, with only one or two areas of colour that accentuate the intricate textures of the works. Although Harvey is not vegetarian or vegan herself, she strives to prompt a reconsideration of our interactions with our food. "We're very close with these animals, and yet we're eating them too," she said to the *Other Press*—a paradox that her art calls into question. Another series of works, *China People Street*, was directly inspired by Harvey's walks through Chinatown in Vancouver. It's an area full of, rich history and unique character, depicted through the artist's vivid acrylic paintings of elderly residents and street-level activity. Harvey lives very near Chinatown, in Strathcona, so she's witnessed the area change intensely over the past few years. Architectural development, demographic shifts, and cultural change have led to a profound transformation of the neighbourhood. Harvey's paintings are her attempt to memorialize some of this distinctive spirit before it is completely eroded by new developments. "It speaks to a neighbourhood that has very deep roots... and I just felt like I wanted to capture that before it disappears," said Harvey. Her most recent artistic series is *We Could Be Heroes*, containing portraits of people whom Harvey finds inspirational,



Photos by Analyn Cuarto

such as Cindy Blackstock, a local First Nations activist known for her advocacy in Aboriginal children's welfare. With the work in this series, Harvey aims to celebrate the accomplishments of these individuals and to show that heroism can be found in even seemingly ordinary circumstances. "These are everyday people," she said of the portraits' subjects. "They are not rock stars. They are not celebrities ... They're really out there doing this amazing work, and I think [they] can be inspiring for all of us." She told the *Other Press* she didn't originally intend for *We Could Be Heroes* to show only women, which all

three of the works so far do. "I realized that I did [focus on women] as it was happening, and I was thinking, 'Actually, you know what? That's okay,'" she said. Harvey plans to continue with this series, and she doesn't know if she'll end up including any men; if not, she is happy to recognize and celebrate the many powerful women who are leading movements and inspiring change around the world. *Inhabited Lives* is currently on display in the Amelia Douglas Gallery, located on the fourth floor of the New Westminster campus. The exhibit will run until October 21.

Chairman of the Board: The matching game

› 'Apples to Apples' and 'Cards Against Humanity' game reviews

Ed Appleby
Contributor

★★★★★

Innovation often comes in the form of pairs. Sometimes it is in the conflict of different brands pushing the same basic technology with slight differences; other times it is a genesis of innovation and refinement. That is the case with these two wonderful games—one groundbreaking, the other record-setting.

Apples to Apples (1999) is a judged matching game for four or more people designed by Matthew Kirby and Mark Alan Osterhaus and published by Mattel. *Cards Against Humanity* (2011) is a judged matching game for four or more people designed and published by the Cards Against Humanity Team. In these games, the players take turns acting as judge and they read a subject card (green

or white depending on the game), then all other players contribute cards (red or black depending on the game) that they feel best matches the judge's card. The cards are read out, hilarity ensues, and the player who contributes the best match gets the judge's card. The first player to get to the predetermined number of green (or white) cards wins.

Though the mechanics are the same, the two games differ in one fundamental detail. In *Apples to Apples*, the cards are green adjective cards that are paired with red noun cards. In *Cards Against Humanity*, the judges' cards are fill in the blank, with the black cards having very specific and explicit things. This allows the two games to thrive together, with *Apples to Apples* being more family-friendly and universal and *Cards Against Humanity* catering to a much lewder adult audience.

The base mechanics of both games are very strong, and I would recommend either or both for any collection, depending on what you're into.



Illustration by Ed Appleby

SPORTS

Hazing in sports

› It's all fun and games—until it isn't

Katie Czenczek
Staff Writer

At times, when sports teams are left to their own devices, horrifying events can take place that would only seem to belong in Lord of the Flies. In 2005 at McGill University, 18-year-old D'Arcy McKeown was sexually assaulted by his fellow teammates with a broomstick, under the guise of hazing. As a result of this very public and extreme version of hazing, many Canadian colleges and universities updated their codes of conduct to ban hazing outright.

Hazing, taken from Douglas College's Student-Athlete Handbook, "is any action or situation created by a member of the College and/or the Royals Athletics department against another individual(s), for the purpose of affiliation with a group or organization that is negligent or reckless in nature, humiliates or endangers an individual, or unreasonably interferes with scholastic or employment activities." It is worth noting that it does not matter if the victim who was hazed gave consent or not, under Douglas' policy. Which brings us to the next question: Why do teammates haze their fellow teammates, and, in particular, rookies on the team?

Often, when hazing occurs, it tends to be considered a 'rite of passage' taken by all novice players to truly belong to a team. At least, that's what my senior soccer team in high school called it when they woke up all of the new players and sprayed us with silly string on a trip to Osoyoos. Hazing can range from more innocent versions like what I had experienced when I was young to what McKeown experienced at McGill University. More often than not,

hazing rituals are almost always occurring alongside the presence of alcohol.

Interestingly enough, hazing actually does more harm to team cohesiveness than good, as found in a study conducted by Van Raalte, Cornelius, Linder, and Britton in 2007. The study revealed how negative team bonding situations led new players to feel less comfortable with their teammates and to be less interested in being a part of the team. Therefore, making the claim that hazing actually strengthens a team is false. That is why it is overall just better to avoid hazing your teammates if you want your team to succeed during the season.

Douglas College's policy on hazing is similar to McGill University's: They both ban hazing and have clear guidelines for how to report hazing and the measures that will take place. However, the problem is that many student athletes tend to not feel comfortable saying what happened to them. It is difficult to report what happens to victims of hazing because of the humiliating situations these people are put into. "I don't want that on my conscience because I didn't have the courage to speak up," said a student who came out ten years after the 2005 McGill incident to report a similar hazing experience, in a statement to the Globe and Mail.

This indicates that the policy McGill amended may have failed to stop hazing from occurring, as many students before McKeown were likely to not report their experiences with hazing. Although he was not the only one who experienced hazing in 2015, he was the only student to come forward.

Overall, hazing is an archaic and outdated way to initiate new teammates. It does nothing to help team bonding and creates a toxic environment for everyone involved.

NHL stumbles in foray to China

› Canucks and Kings fail to make an impact in a new market

Greg Waldock
Staff Writer

The NHL found itself disappointing fans early this September—before the season even started—and not even on the North American continent.

In a unique move by the league, they've agreed to play six games over the course of eight years in China, attempting to break into a new and unfamiliar market. The first game, between the Vancouver Canucks and the LA Kings, drew just over 10,000 spectators, which is measly for a North American game but impressive for a country that only tangentially participates in the KHL, Asia's largest hockey league. Despite the relatively good numbers, the NHL ended up facing criticism for an uninteresting match fraught with minor infractions and slow play, and a severe lack of advertising for the game.

The league and China have been eyeing each other for a while, both making tentative steps into each other's realms. The NHL aims to broaden its horizons to an untapped market, hoping to have at least affiliated league

branches in competition with the KHL and to help encourage players to join in for the upcoming 2022 Winter Olympics, held in China. The attempt to drum up enthusiasm for the sport both internationally and within the NHL itself received criticism mostly from within the league itself, and players and league members were disappointed with the audience and the game.

The NHL has been coming down hard on stick fouls, and it showed in the last season. If this game is any sign, it won't get any better when hockey starts this year. The Canucks head coach, Travis Green said: "The flow of the game isn't what it normally is," and the crowd seemed to agree. By the end of the game, after a full 17 power plays between both teams, and a 5-2 win for Los Angeles, much of the audience had left. The game also received little or no attention in the local press. Hopefully, the NHL will change their approach to international games in the future (currently no NHL players are allowed to go to the 2018 Olympics in Seoul, and the upcoming 2017-2018 season will not be accommodating it)—otherwise they'll never break into Asia.

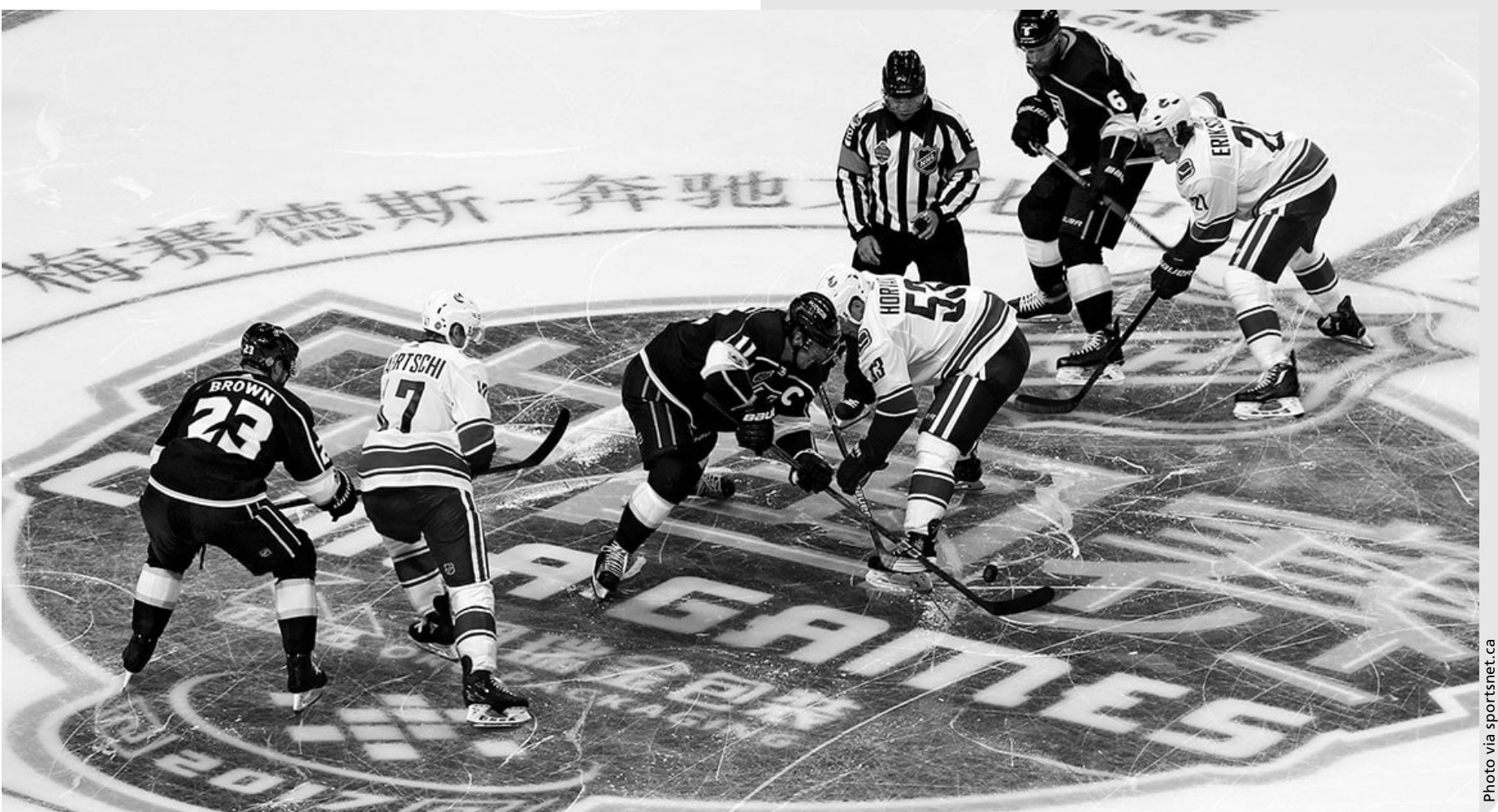




Photo by Falacci Johnston

Form, finishing, and fighting

› Royals WSOC earn six points over weekend

Davie Wong
Sports Editor

Having faced the Quest Kermodes only two weeks ago, the image of their 1-1 draw was still burned into the minds of a hungry Royals squad. They had a chance to correct that memory on Saturday when they took on the Quest Kermodes in Squamish.

Despite the home-field advantage, the Royals manage to get off to good start. A foul in the box earned the team a penalty kick. Stepping up to the mark was Madison Hendry. Her first PK of the year turned into her first goal of the year as she went and ripped home the opening goal.

Following her up was the flamboyant Mikayla Hamilton. Hamilton struck home a shot just three minutes after to double the Royals' lead and bag her first goal of the season. All of a sudden, the Kermodes were in some sort of trouble. They would go down to the other end and test the Royals but Nicole Scott, making her first PACWEST start, was a wall in front of the net. She made six stops in the first half alone to keep the Royals in front, 2-0, going into halftime.

Much like the first game, the second half saw both teams fizzle out into a draw with neither side able to do too much. The Royals controlled the pace of the game, occasionally prodding the Quest defence to see if there were any openings. Rikki Logan and the Kermodes kept the game where it was, but the Royals backline was able to do the same. After an exciting first half, the game drizzled out to a 2-0 win for the Royals.

The next day, they came home to take on the visiting VIU Mariners.

Like any game against the Mariners, it was an exciting affair. Mikayla Hamilton drew first blood off of a through-ball. The speedy forward blitzed through the defensive line and found herself alone with VIU's keeper, Alex DeMille. Hamilton blasted home the ball, celebrating emphatically as she raced into the arms of her teammates.

20 minutes later, the Royals found themselves with another opportunity to put themselves ahead. A deadly handball in the box saw the Royals on the mark. Captain Sam Kell stepped up and put the ball past a sprawling Alex DeMille. Set to go 2-0 into halftime, the Mariners found themselves spoiling the Royals halftime meeting. A cannon of a shot from fifth year Moira Brown got the Mariners on the board with seconds left in the half, 2-1.

After halftime, the Mariners came out a whole new team. They pressured the Royals the entire half, but the Royals found their game winner off another foul from the Mariners. A bump from a VIU defender jumping to contest a ball in the box sent the Royals to the mark once again. Sam Kell took her second penalty shot of the game and powered home the game insurance goal.

The Royals wouldn't need that insurance as they would stall out the last 45 minutes of the game to win 3-1 over the VIU Mariners. The win, as well as the weekend, put the Royals at a record of 3-1-1, with 10 points. They currently sit at the top of the table, 4 points clear of the Capilano Blues and VIU Mariners, who sit tied for second with six points each. The Blues still have a game in-hand over the Royals. That match will be next week as they take on the Blues at home.

Royals Soccer Preview

› Taking a look at week 4 of PACWEST action

“The Blues have been the sole team to defeat the Royals this season. Now Douglas has the chance to put one over on them on home soil”

Davie Wong
Sports Editor

Looking ahead at week 4 of the LPACWEST soccer season, the Douglas College Royals have interesting challenges for them on both sides of the bracket. The women will face off against the undefeated Langara Falcons and their North Vancouver rivals, the Capilano Blues. Meanwhile, the men will be preparing for a rematch against the Capilano Blues.

Taking a look at the ladies, the Royals had an excellent performance last week. Two big wins are what the team is riding on when they face the currently 'undefeated' Langara Falcons. But to call them winless would also be accurate. After five games at the helm, Rae Pelat's Langara Falcons team is 0-0-5 with five points in the standings. It's not that the Falcons haven't been good. They've lead in numerous of their games, they've just blown the lead. In games where they are trailing, they've shown gusto and heart, tying it with only moments left to go. But the bottom line is that they don't have enough to cross the line; at least they haven't so far. Against the Royals, it's unlikely that's going to change. With Mikayla Hamilton finding her form, this one should be a walk in the park for the Royals.

However, the next game they face off against the Capilano Blues. The Blues

have been the sole team to defeat the Royals this season. Now Douglas has the chance to put one over on them on home soil. As mentioned before, striker Mikayla Hamilton has found her form. She'll be an incredibly important asset to the Royals as they look to find holes in a potent Blues defense. Coming into the game against the Royals, the Blues have only given up four goals in five games.

The Royals will need to be vigilant on the offense to break that trend. That shouldn't be too hard though. Midfielder and captain Sam Kell has been the player to watch as she continues to pour on the goals. She's been deadly from distance and from the spot. With Hamilton being such threat, it's hard not to see Kell taking shots from the spot anytime soon.

Moving on to the men, this weekend's games is going to be a challenge for them. The Capilano Blues are always a tough challenge. However, the last time these two met, it was the Royals coming ahead. This time it won't be so easy. The Royals play the Blues after their clean 6-0 dismantling of the Langara Falcons. That's a position that no team in the PACWEST envies.

However, it would seem that the men have also found their goal scoring feet. Last time out, the Royals potted three against the VIU Mariners, which is no easy task. If they bring that same ferocity with them when they face the Capilano Blues, fans should be in for a treat.

So you want to

The trials and tribulations of
extensive creative projects

My name is Brittney, and I am a writer—that has always been something I have found difficult to say. Not because it isn't true, I have been a journalist and editor for a number of years; I have been published in short story anthologies, textbooks, collective books of poetry, and I even wrote a novella a few years back. Currently I am attempting to work on my second book, a full-length novel. However, it has only been in the last two years that I have been able to introduce myself as a writer and not chicken out at the last second, resorting to my default of encasing myself beneath the umbrella term of "retail slave." I suppose it is one of those things where once you say it out loud, you become accountable for it. Like if I describe myself as a writer, but then never produce another notable work, all of a sudden everyone will see me as a failure—or worse, one of those basement dwelling "writers," who's greatest work to date is their homoerotic *Supernatural/Lord of the Rings* crossover fanfiction. As a sci-fi writer, I feel like I rank slightly above that—but only slightly.

I have grown up as something of an introvert, and I tend to shy away from the possibility of failure because I fear disappointing the people that support me in any way. This hindered my growth as a writer greatly. For a number of years, I was too scared to commit to writing anything. In fact, it wasn't until the abject failure that was my first book that I finally felt able to fully explore what I think makes my writing unique.

Failure isn't a bad thing

On the surface, my first book looks like a moderate success. I wrote it, it was published, that should be enough. That is if you ignore the fact that I hate my first book beyond any measure—so much so that I never repeat the title in polite company. I made a number of mistakes that I regret, peak among them is my choice not to write in a genre I enjoyed. I was too afraid to tackle the world of sci-fi, intimidated by the idea of having to world-build so much.

Typically, science fiction is not as character-focused as most popular genres. Its appeal lies in the construction of the narrative universe: Is it believable, does the technology make sense? Despite my love of sci-fi, I always knew that my style of writing was more character-driven, so for my first book I made the choice to relegate myself to historical fiction. This was a mistake as it made writing it a chore, so I rushed through it. The end result is something that I am not proud of, and the fact that it went all the way through to being a published work is something of an embarrassment.

I know that it is awful, and in no way reflective of what I am capable of. But, in the end, I gained experience from all of this. I now know that I need to write to please myself, because if I like it, there's bound to be someone else out there who will too. The fact I was able to fail, and then come back from it still wanting to write is a testament to how insignificant failure is. In the end, I wasted so much time being afraid of failure, only to find out that failure means very little.

Be brave, but be smart

Nerves get the best of everyone. Even now, with my newfound confidence in being a failure, I am nervous. As a writer about to begin a new project you are essentially at the mouth of a very long and dark tunnel that you have to go into alone. No matter how much support you have around you, you are the only person that can ensure you make it out the other side. I asked someone I greatly admire, New York Times bestselling author Nalini Singh, if she was ever nervous or scared when she first decided to make the move to publish, and she gave me some of the best advice I have ever received:

"I'm not sure everyone should [publish] the first book they write. You grow so much as a writer from book to book. Not to say there haven't been great first-ever books, but I think that's rare. I always suggest people at least give themselves a month or two of distance and then go back and read/review that first book to see if they want to publish it. My first published book was probably my 10th written. I knew that book was ready. I'm not saying write ten books before publishing, but do give yourself room and distance to clearly assess your work."

write a book...

I think that helps with nerves, but all writers I know (myself included) always experience nerves when a new book goes out into the world, because it is a new project and no one can predict if readers will like it or not. Write your best story. That's what you can control."

Move with your inspiration

I think another one of my earlier mistakes was to write in a way that was linear, and without the forethought that I could re-write or edit it later. This is something that has made the process of writing my second book a lot more enjoyable. Instead of writing a full story from beginning to end, I break it up depending on what I find inspiring that day. Do I want to write an epic battle scene, or do I want to write a small, dramatic moment? I can do either, and that freedom greatly affects the quality of my writing. It also ensures that I'm not rushing through to simply get to a part I want to write about. Essentially, I have subscribed to the mantra: "Write now, edit later."

Having a way of just getting the good ideas out, even in a simple point form way, means you won't forget about the ideas you have. Right now, I have a notebook that I write drafts of scenes and notes in. I then take the drafts from that notebook and then type them up into the novel's master copy in my computer when I feel they fit in the timeline. Sometimes I have an idea of where the scenes should go, other times I simply write something for the sake of getting the ideas out. Doing so keeps my motivation to write at the forefront of my mind—so it makes it less likely that I'll fall into a funk or the dreaded writer's block. I simply look at this process as the first initial step in reading and reviewing my work as Singh suggested I do, and so far I have been very happy with the results.

Stay focused

Ultimately, I am still unsure how this book will turn out; if it will ever see the light of day, or if I will eventually scrap it. That being said, it doesn't feel like a throw-away—it feels like something special. I say this because the original introduction into the world I am writing was done through a short story I wrote several years ago for a creative writing workshop at Douglas College. Despite the fact it was so long ago, the story has stuck in my mind—a nagging insect that just wants my attention. Because of that strange, innate feeling, I want this to work, even if I do suffer the occasional bouts of self-doubt. I think that everything that has led me to this point—my failure, my intuition, my decision to be confident and do my own thing even though I am afraid of what that could entail—has led me to a very specific place. I want to write, and I want to write this story in particular—and because I know that, focus is less of a problem.

I think writers in general are a special breed. I have never met one that didn't want to write, unless they were forced onto a project they didn't believe in. Is it work? Yes. Will you have endless late nights and frustrations? Yes. But the writing isn't the issue for me—it's everything else. Having to work that 9 to 5, having to make time for my loved ones. As awful as it sounds, I would rather hole myself away and get this story out, but that's impossible. I suppose then that my best advice for staying focused is to not go with fleeting trends and half-baked concepts. Wait for the story that won't leave you alone.

By Brittney MacDonald,
Life & Style Editor

Tough week indeed

> Royals grab one point in tough week

Davie Wong
Sports Editor

In last week's preview, it was predicted that the Royals men's soccer team would have a tough week. But I don't think anyone could have predicted how tough it actually was.

The team started out the weekend in Squamish, playing against the Quest Kermodes. It was a hard start for the team, as Kermodes came out of the gates strong on the tackle and the attack. Off of a corner from the Royals, the Kermodes would run it down the other end to score on the counter attack. For the rest of the half, the Kermodes pressured the Royals, forcing keeper Joel Webb to make several key saves.

After a stern halftime talking to, the Royals came back swinging. They registered nine shots in the second half but could not find a way to solve Quest's keeper, Sam McDonald. The Royals control of the second half saw the Kermodes only take two shots in the second half, but their goal earlier in the game was enough to seal the game as a 1-0 win.

The loss was a demoralizing one, however, the Royals needed to bounce back as they faced off against the VIU Mariners the next day. VIU's star studded lineup is never one to underestimated, and they demonstrated exactly why. They prodded at the Royals backline until they finally found their opening. Two Mariners raced past the

back four of Douglas, facing off against the Royals' keeper, Iqbal Sraw. A couple of dribbles and a pass saw Victor Blasco tuck the ball into an empty net to give the Mariners the lead.

The next 70 minutes consisted of broken plays from both sides. It was an aggressive game as both teams got themselves into foul trouble. It wasn't until the waning moments of the game that things got excited. A dangerous free kick saw Eric Ray bag his first of the season to tie the game. Mere minutes later, Quinn Dawson fired home the go ahead goal.

However, the Mariners weren't finished either. A free kick on the Royals side of the field saw midfielder Shun Takano bury the equalizer with minutes left in the game. But that wasn't even the end. Tomi Fagopngbe managed to dribble his way past the entire Mariners backline to bury his first of the season and give the Royals yet another lead. A couple seconds later, Stefan Kamner was sent off for the Royals, putting them one man down. With one minute left in the game, Govinda Innes would equalize for the Mariners, scoring on the ensuing corner kick. And with that dying breath, the referee blew his whistle to end the game, 3-3.

The weekend's results see the Royals improve to a record of 1-2-2 with 5 points on the season. They currently in fourth place, two points behind the Quest Kermodes, but five ahead of the winless Langara Falcons. The team takes on the Capilano Blues next weekend.



Photo by Davie Wong

Royals rookies run the show

> Strong showing from Women's Volleyball at Pacific Challenge Tournament

Davie Wong
Sports Editor

While soccer was the main event this weekend, the Royals had another event going on the side. The women's volleyball team hosted the first Douglas College Pacific Challenge Tournament. An offseason tournament, it was an opportunity for the Royals, amongst other squads, to see how their rookies lined up against the competition.

In particular, it was an opportunity for the Royals to play against CCAA level competition outside the PACWEST. In addition to the Capilano Blues, the VIU Mariners, and the UFV Cascades, the Royals hosted the Trinity Western University Spartans, the Medicine Hat College Rattlers, the Concordia University Thunder, and the Seneca College Sting.

The Royals would end up playing the Seneca Sting, Concordia Thunder, and the Medicine Hat Rattlers, in that order. The Sting were a good warmup for the Royals, challenging them in various ways, and welcoming the rookies to collegiate level volleyball. Ultimately, it was a 3-0 for the Royals, but it was a close one.

Next up were the Thunder. Like the

Sting, the Thunder were a talented squad that challenged the Royals in a different way. While their finishing was a bit off, their defence was strong, particularly their shot blocking. It took some experimenting for the Royals to find an attack that worked for them. But once they did, it was hard to stop them. A 3-0 finish told a different story, but it was a great game from both squads.

The Rattlers were an even better team. They put the Royals in uncomfortable situations, but the team battled back. A 3-1 win highlighted the tournament for the Royals, as they finished a perfect 3-0. But the tournament was about the wins, it was about exposure to high levels of competition. Several Royals rookies had strong performances. Bailey Zulinick, Emily Hoffman, Natalie Demers, and Sarah Watson, all had strong showings, looking to fit perfectly with Jeff Ross' system. Olivia Cesseretti, who is not a rookie but a second year and also tipped to be the favourite for the starting middle blocker spot according to sources, also looked very good out on the court.

All in all, it's looking to be an exciting year for the program. If championships are won in the offseason, then seasons are won during the preseason.



WOMEN'S SOCCER

INSTITUTION	CONF	PTS
DOUGLAS	3-1-1	10
CAPILANO	1-0-3	6
VIU	1-2-3	6
LANGARA	0-0-5	5
QUEST	0-2-2	2

MEN'S SOCCER

INSTITUTION	CONF	PTS
VIU	4-1-1	13
CAPILANO	3-1	9
QUEST	2-1-1	7
DOUGLAS	1-2-2	5
LANGARA	0-5	0

Jojoba oil review

> The miracle missing from your skincare routine

Lauren Dinwoodie
Contributor

I recently bought a bottle of jojoba oil from the supermarket for a DIY “Spa Day” with my boyfriend, expecting it to moisturize my skin after the use of various clay masks and exfoliants, which can strip the skin of its natural oils and dry it out. What I didn’t expect were the almost miracle-like effects this oil would have. I should start by noting that jojoba oil isn’t technically an oil, but rather a wax with an unusually low melting point. This allows it to maintain its liquid form at room temperature, which gives it a nice smooth texture without the greasy feel of other oils, such as coconut or olive. My skin type is dry-combination, meaning that my skin tends to be on the drier side, but may get oily or shiny throughout the day. Upon using the jojoba oil for the first time, my skin felt soft, smooth and moisturized, yet thankfully not too greasy. After that first day, I liked the feeling of the oil so much that I’ve continued to use it over the past few weeks. Since I started using it, I can narrow its positive effects down to three specific differences; I have less texture, my makeup goes on smoother and lasts longer, and the moisture

levels of my skin are more balanced. The reduction in my skin texture is the most surprising and rewarding development so far in my jojoba journey. While I have fortunately never experienced severe acne aside from the odd breakout, since I was about thirteen there has always been some subtle topography on my forehead. Since this texture has resided on my face for so long, I became resigned to its permanent existence. However, within four or five days of using the jojoba oil on my face consistently morning and night, I had noticed a *drastic* reduction in those little bumps on my face I thought would never disappear, leaving me with plumper, smoother skin. Because of this reduction in skin texture, I have noticed that my makeup application looks better. Those who wear makeup regularly—specifically cream products like foundations, concealers, etc.—have probably noticed that these products can sometimes bring out skin texture. When I use the jojoba oil in the morning before putting on my makeup, I notice that cream products become more emollient and adhere to the skin better, allowing for a smoother application, less danger of the dreaded “cakey” appearance, and for my look to last longer.

“ Because of this reduction in skin texture, I have noticed that my makeup application looks better.”

One of the reasons that my makeup can last longer with the jojoba oil because it balances out the moisture levels in my skin. While many people have used natural oils on the skin since biblical times, I had never thought to use them for fear that applying oil would make me look greasy, clog my pores, and cause breakouts. What differentiates jojoba oil from other “miracle oils” (I’m looking at you, coconut), is that it is the closest to the natural sebum produced by one’s own skin. While applying another layer of oily-like substance onto the skin may seem counter-productive, it is important to note that oiliness is caused by an overproduction of sebum by the skin due to ineffective moisturizing. This is why my dry skin gets oily throughout the day. On days that I moisturize with the jojoba oil, my skin tends to adapt better, and halts the overproduction of its own oils, allowing me to maintain a glowing, yet not “glazed-donut” appearance. The bottle I bought was only fifteen dollars, and the positive effects far outweigh the price, so I would highly recommend giving jojoba oil a try as a safe, natural, and inexpensive addition to one’s skincare routine!



Photo by Analyn Cuarto

Duolingo vs. Memrise

> Language app review

Katie Czenczek
Staff Writer

If you’re wanting to add a new language to your resume, travel abroad, or you’re already an international student looking for some extra help, there are a variety of different apps to cater to your needs. Though these apps probably won’t allow you to fully master a language, they can still help in addition to other linguistic study and practice techniques. Plus, some of them are almost like games—that beats going on Instagram in between classes! With all of the language apps on the market currently, Duolingo and Memrise are leading in downloads and reviews. Duolingo promises that 34 hours clocked on this app is equivalent to about one semester at an university level, and offers a variety of learning techniques that teach you how to read, write, and speak the language. It offers 30 different languages for English speakers, including High Valyrian and Klingon for *Game of Thrones* fans and Trekkies alike. Although the speaking portion of the app is too forgiving in order to properly

learn pronunciation, you’d probably still be able to get by when travelling overseas. A great feature about this app is that if you make a mistake on a word or sentence, the app will ensure you come back to that question at the end of the review or lesson. The best thing about this app, in comparison to Memrise and other language apps, is that it is completely free aside from an upgrade to premium that only gets rid of ads and allows you to access the app offline. It is available on iOS, Android, and Windows mobile phones. Memrise takes the idea of educational games to a whole other level. The app’s design looks and feels like a game, and becomes almost addictive. There is even a minor story that’s played at the beginning of the app and throughout as you progress forward. This app offers up to 95 languages for English speakers, including American Sign Language (ASL), making this one of the few language app to offer ASL lessons. However, Memrise lacks the variety that Duolingo offers in terms of lessons as it relies solely on memorization rather than explaining why the language is a particular way. Also, it fails to give you the opportunity to speak and

“ A great feature about this app is that if you make a mistake on a word or sentence, the app will ensure you come back to that question at the end of the review or lesson.”

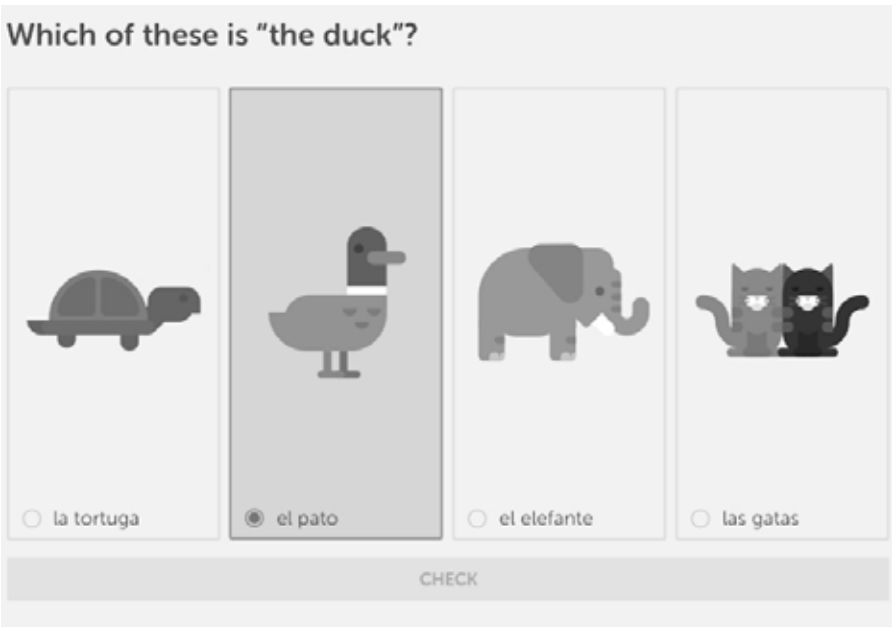


Image Via Google Play Store

have your pronunciation corrected. Another unfortunate feature of this app is that you can only access a portion of the app for free. Memrise is available on iOS and Android only. Overall, there is a reason that Duolingo is the most popular language app on the market. Though Memrise is great in terms of app design and the vast amount of language options, it

lacks the speaking option that Duolingo offers, along with having many limitations on the app unless you pay. The app is very fun and visually appealing, but I doubt that it will actually strengthens one’s knowledge of a language. If you’re actually wanting to use a language app to learn a language, your best bet is to download Duolingo.

Life on set as a background performer

> What to know if you want to be an extra for TV or film

Clive Ramroop
Contributor

Words like “booming” and “sprawling” have been used to describe BC’s film industry. It’s easy to see why, when you can find clusters of white trucks and trailers materializing in seemingly random spots like a park in Surrey or near a mall in Langley. As productions like *The Flash*, *Riverdale*, and numerous movies-of-the-week keep the industry rolling, casting directors for these productions require “nameless” players in the background to fill space or add realism to some scenes. Though these extras—also known as background performers—don’t receive the publicity of the A-list stars, they can make some good money in the process.

Curious about how to be an extra for film and/or TV? It’s not terribly difficult. For one, previous acting experience isn’t necessary, but the ability to take direction is. An easy way to get started is to find an agent that deals with background players. There are quite a few such agencies all over Metro Vancouver. Signing with an agent does not guarantee steady work, however—it’s an on-call job, and getting a gig depends on what casting directors are looking for, regarding “character types” or certain “looks,” and of course, who is available on which shooting dates.

When you are booked on a filming

date, you have to be at the location by your call time. It could be obscenely early like 5 a.m., or quite a bit later like 7 p.m. Due to the unsteady, unpredictable nature of this line of work, someone with a regular nine-to-five weekday job might not be suitable if they’re unable to take a day off for a booked shoot. No-shows not only make the agency representing that absentee look bad, it’s grounds for immediate dismissal from the roster. You’d be advised to wear something appropriately comfortable for the weather—given this is Vancouver, your waiting area might just be a big tent with a power heater to shield you from a torrential downpour, if the crew is filming outdoors.

You may be asked in an advance email to bring some articles of your own clothing to match a certain character look. The purpose is to further help the costume departments, whose otherwise large wardrobes may still be limited to account for a crowd of more than 75 extras. Once you’re in costume and your hair and makeup are ready, the day is a lot of “hurry up and wait” in the holding area, usually not far from the film set itself. You may experience long stretches of wait times before you and other extras are called on set, so bring something to do. Once you’re called, be prepared for the film crew to capture multiple takes of the same scene, especially if it’s a fast-action scene with rapid-fire editing for the show’s final cut.



Illustration by Ed Appleby

It’s possible for various angles and takes of the same scene to be repeatedly shot for hours!

If any of that seems boring to you, don’t worry; there are some perks to being an extra. For starters, free food! And of course, there’s the pay. You’re guaranteed a minimum four hours’ pay even if a shoot goes less than that; if a day goes past eight hours, you get overtime—but be aware

that your hours on set will take about two to three weeks of processing by financial departments. Under some circumstances, you can even apply to join the Union of BC Performers as a “Background Member.”

Being a background performer may not lead to hitting stardom of your own, but you can still say you’ve been on a show with certain celebrities—after the non-disclosure agreement has expired, that is.

Get good: Deathmatch

> 1v1 duels and free-for-alls

Brittney MacDonald
Life & Style Editor

As I said in previous editions of *Get Good*, teaming up is always a sound strategy for people new to PC gaming. Unfortunately, that’s sometimes not an option. Yep, I’m talking about the dreaded Deathmatch, or duel. A Deathmatch is a free-for-all where you need to kill as many people as possible, whereas a duel is just a single player facing off against another single player. Though they differ in function, they’re actually pretty similar in how you should approach them.

Deathmatch win conditions vary. Most of the time the win goes to the last man standing, but sometimes it’s reliant on how many people you’ve killed—it all depends on the game. Duel win conditions are always the same, whether you’re doing a random quick-match in *Overwatch*—they call it 1v1, and it’s only available during certain seasonal events—or you’ve taken personal offence to someone in *World of Warcraft*; the winner of the duel is the person who doesn’t die.

Being successful at either of these modes is a bit tricky. You run the risk of facing off against people a lot more experienced than you—without having anyone to back you up. But there are a few options you may have at your disposal to help you out.

If you’re playing a game where you have a hero or champion select, your automatic instinct will be to go for someone powerful—this is a trap, don’t

fall for it. The same idea applies to players with custom characters. Your first instinct will be to load your ability bar with high damage spells or attacks—this is also a trap. High damage is nice, but it’s not worth anything if you can’t survive. In a Deathmatch surviving is important because it may win you the game, and if it doesn’t—if you are in a position where you have to kill the most players—you can’t kill anyone if you’re already dead!

Whether you choose your character from a set, or it’s a custom one you’ve developed out of playing an MMO, before you enter a Deathmatch or a duel make sure you have a healing ability or at least something that will make you impervious so you can chug a potion or get a health-pack.

Next you should remember “ABA”—Always Be Attacking! Make sure the majority of your abilities have low cooldowns, so you’re never in a position where you can’t do anything. Having a couple of higher cooldown abilities is fine, as they usually tend to be more powerful, but they shouldn’t make up the majority of your skill set. As an add-on to that, use abilities or pick a character you’re familiar with. You want to be able to know the cooldown times and your skill rotation—the order in which you activate your skills or spells to capitalize on cooldown timers and ABA.

Next—and really this is just more of a personal preference that I found useful—get control. What I mean by this is if you have some way of incapacitating



Screenshot from 'Overwatch' animated short 'Infiltration'

your opponent, such as a knockback, a grab, a sleeping spell—anything that will make it impossible for them to attack you—use it! You want to dictate the pace of the fight. Having that ability in your back pocket will allow you to escape to find health, freely whittle away at their HP bar, or even kill them if you can get off a headshot. You’re basically making winning easier. You can also use this as an

interrupt. If you know that they’re going to hit you with an ability that does a lot of damage, incapacitate them! Not only will it save you, but they will still have the cooldown timer so they’ll have to wait to use that high damage ability again.

Other than that, just try your best and hope the players you’re up against are just as new to this as you are.



Photo by Analyn Cuarto

Meditation will refresh your perspective

> Benefits to a daily practice

Cazzy Lewchuk
Contributor

Meditation can perhaps be defined as the act of doing nothing at all. It could also be considered the practice of putting the body into another state of mind. In a world where we are more connected and bombarded with stimulation than ever before, taking a break is really important.

Many think meditation is a complicated practice, but it's really just focusing on nothing but our own minds. You don't have to be in a formal session. It is simply a matter of being extremely self-aware, and taking that awareness and practicing it in your daily life. Even noticing when you make the transition from standing to sitting counts as being in the moment.

My own personal journey with meditation involved a popular meditation app, Headspace. Ten free daily sessions are offered to the user, after which you pay a subscription fee for a much larger access library. While the prices may seem a bit steep (\$18 a month or \$96 a year), I find the diverse amount of meditation activities and guidance offered worth it. The free sessions are also an excellent introduction to the tactics, allowing you to then practice on your own. Of course, there are many free online resources (including YouTube) to help anyone get

into basic practices. In addition, millions practice meditation around the world without the need of an app. At its core, the act is simply shutting the eyes and focusing on your breathing. The goal is to clear the mind and not to erase thoughts but simply set them aside.

Since I started regularly meditating for 10-15 minutes a day, I've noticed a difference in my clarity. I always feel super relaxed, almost intoxicated, after each session. When struggling with low moods or bad feelings, meditation also helps me work through those emotions. It is the most uplifting and refreshed I feel all day. Even going about in daily life, I've been able to find myself in better focus and feel more at ease when overwhelmed. Learning to concentrate on your state of mind when in meditation builds better concentration all around.

Not everyone relaxes from meditation in the same way. Even if you don't feel the altered stream of consciousness (and this can take a few sessions), there is a lot of benefits to taking the time out of the day and simply trying. It's hard to describe what the exact feeling of being mid-meditation is, but you'll know when you've reached it. It's very much a deep focus akin to being asleep, yet in control.

It only takes a couple of weeks to really start noticing the benefits. Whether through guided sessions or your own experimentation, I can't recommend trying meditation enough.



#DOUGLIFE

Share your photos with us on Twitter using the hashtag #DougLife, for a chance to be featured in the paper!



matchstickproductions • Follow
New Westminster, British Columbia



17 likes

matchstickproductions Thank you so much to everyone who came out to see "Fowl Play" and support Matchstick Productions for our very first show! Stay tuned for our next show in January!

This week's post is by @matchstickproductions

OPINIONS

☑ War of the Words!
☑ I'm not a bitch because I don't want to talk to you in class
And more!

Clubbing is the absolute worst

› Booze and sexual harassment don't mix well

Katie Czenczek
Staff Writer

I'll never fully understand why clubbing is supposed to be the best possible way to have fun when in your 20s. I do love a good party, but going to a random place that features the faint aroma of B.O. while a bunch of strangers all wait around for "something to happen" just isn't my idea of a good time.

Clubs—the darker, louder, and seat-less version of bars—are the worst. Yet somehow, every time my friends drag me out to another club downtown I seem to magically forget that I will not enjoy myself.

That is the problem with clubbing in our culture. It is hyped up to the point that even when the murky bathroom mirror and spilled toilet paper and piss on the ground are staring at you straight in the face, you'll think, "Oh, it was just that one night, you weren't at the right place. Don't you know? Celebs

are for Tuesdays!" Leading you to go out next week to waste more money on cover and coat check and over-priced drinks and still have the exact same awful experience.

The absolute worst part about clubbing, however, is how guys act like it's open season on any girl in the facility. Maybe it's the music, or the alcohol, or just club culture in general, but men approaching women at clubs could be a special on the Discovery Channel. First, the girl walks in, dressed up and with her flock of friends, dancing away. And then, all the sudden, she feels some sort of pressure coming from behind her. She swats him off but the only thing that will really stop him is that classic line: "I have a boyfriend." Because, apparently, a girl just flat out not wanting some stranger to touch her is not reason enough for saying no.

Next time your friends invite you to a night out on the town, just try to remember what happened the last time, because if that wasn't fun for you, know that it won't be any better this time.



War makes money, peace doesn't

› Mainstream media manufactures consent for war

Sameer Siddiqui
Contributor

From the US all the way to China and Russia in the east, all countries have increased their military spending. I am not at all surprised that countries feel threatened by each other, and want to protect their critical routes of trading. For example, China building the islands on the South China sea is aimed to protect its maritime routes as most of its energy imports come through that route. The US, Russia and some European countries are the primary sources of weapons manufacturing and exporting. The companies that make these weapons make huge profits by selling them to customers overseas. The only reason they can sell these arms is because there are conflicts all over the world and not campaigns for peace; their entire business model is based on more conflicts and less peace.

This model of conflict is further illustrated in the companies making these weapons. The US defence companies use a concept called "political engineering," which is the designing of political institutes in a society. They build most of their weapons within the US and employ thousands of people. With so many voters working in these companies, any political candidate who campaigns for reducing defence spending and increasing spending on education or healthcare would be labelled as one who doesn't care about the people of their constituency and if they win, it would lead to thousands of jobs losses.

I believe we should be very careful in accepting any news when it seems like all the news channels are on one side. The way I see it, the media plays a very critical role in manufacturing consent for more wars. Does anyone

remember when they lied that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction? They use a tactic whereby they repeat lies until people accept those lies to be the truth. The latest example of this tactic can be seen in the US where mainstream media has repeated a lie that President Trump and his campaign staff were somehow working covertly with the Russians to get him elected. To date, I don't believe that any concrete evidence has been given.

In my opinion, the whole Russian election conspiracy can be easily

debunked because the US intelligence agencies monitor all electronic communication in the US. If there was indeed some collusion or hacking they would know about it. I think that the media cannot accept that Trump won the election by his own hard work and without the Russian's help. The neoconservatives and war lovers in the US are afraid that Trump could end up having peace deals with Russia and other countries. That is why it is my belief that the Russian conspiracy theory was created to prevent Trump

from conducting diplomacy.

Every nation building up more weapons is a race to the bottom. Each country must gradually reduce its arms under the guidance of an international observer else we leave the next generation in debt and destruction. We all need to stop watching mainstream media and look for alternative sources of news. Yes, there are some good journalists out there, but they are a minority. I believe watching the mainstream media in a way hypnotises us.





Log out to save a life

› Stop shutting down Douglas College computers after printing

Jessica Berget
Opinions Editor

Anyone who doesn't have a printer at home knows the hardship of printing your work out at the Douglas College library. The lines are long and tedious, it takes some people forever to print out a single page, and then there are those who seem to be printing out an entire novel but refuse to log off the computer while their work is printing. While all of this is no doubt frustrating, my biggest personal vexation about printing at the

library are the people who shut down the computers instead of just logging out after printing. It takes forever for the computer to start back up again and holds the line back even more than usual.

There are very few worse things than speed-walking up that giant hill so you can print out your work right before your class starts only to be in line behind the person who decides the completely shut down the computer after they're done printing. This is the unfortunate reality for many students of Douglas College. Although it takes only a few minutes for the computers to completely shut

down and start back up again, when you have only minutes before your class starts and you still need to print out your work while watching the computer slowly creep back to life, that couple of minutes can feel like hours. It also doesn't help your stress when you become late for class because you had to wait for the computer to turn back on again.

Logging out is the best thing you can do after printing in the library. It saves time, efficiency and a whole lot of headaches. Usually when someone logs-out of a computer it does a little restart that looks like its about to shut

down but goes back to the log-in screen in less than a minute. When you shut it down completely the next person to use it has to turn the computer back on and wait for it to slowly start back up again, which is like the seventh circle of hell when you're sweaty and panting and had to be in class five minutes ago.

Most people don't care what they do with the computer after they are done with it but out of courtesy for the people behind you, just log out. The log out button is literally right next to the shut down button so please do not get them mixed up for the sake of everyone's sanity.

I'm not a bitch because I don't want to talk to you in class

› Socially anxious girl just wants to learn

Jessica Berget
Opinions Editor

Let me get one thing straight, I am a fun and cool person to talk to—when I'm not in class. My class time is precious to me, (I paid \$500 to be here) so when I am sitting at my desk the only thing I want to do is look at my phone, listen to the lecture, and learn.

Some of my biggest pet peeves are people who talk during lectures. It's rude to the people who have a hard time focusing and just want to hear what the professor is saying. Did you really pay this much for a class just to talk the entire time? My disdain for people who do this led me to avoid socializing with fellow classmates altogether. I have had more than one occasion where I'm trying to take notes and the person next to me—that I've talked to a couple times—just wants to make jokes about the professor or have full-on conversations during a lecture. Just because I've talked to you before or after class a couple of times is not an invitation to talk to me during class and certainly does not allow you to distract me and interrupt my learning.

But maybe I'm just bitter.

For those with social anxiety or

anyone who considers themselves anti-social, talking to people in class is an absolute nightmare. When I'm forced to interact with classmates as part of a group activity, there's nothing I want to do more than crawl into the fetal position and disappear. It's not that I don't want to talk to anyone in class ever, I just hate the forced interaction and the invitation to socialize with me when I just want to sit in the corner and take notes. When you have social anxiety, any interaction with people can take a lot of mental energy out of you, energy needed to focus in class.

Of course, there are students who want to meet and socialize with their classmates—which is perfectly fine—but when it gets to the point of excessive talking in class or making jokes when the professor is talking, that's when I have to roll my eyes so far back I can see my brain. Don't be that person.

I know I sound like "blah blah I'm not here to make friends" but that is not the case (well, maybe to a certain extent). College is the most chaotic and stressful time for any young adult so of course I want to make friends. Just not the type of friends who talk during class lectures.

“Some of my biggest pet peeves are people who talk during lectures.”



WAR OF THE WORDS



Illustration by Cara Succafien

Rodents are gross and having them as pets is grosser

> Cute but smelly

Jillian McMullen
Staff Writer

Domesticated rodents—hamsters being arguably the most popular—are commonly chosen as pets for young children as a kind of preparatory pet that teaches children the commitment it requires to responsibly own an animal. This attempted education frequently ends poorly, because—as parents need to realize—rodents are not meant to be pets.

Growing up, many of my school friends kept rodents for pets, so I had this romantic idea of what having my own would be like. My mother, however, staunchly refused even the discussion of adding one to our household, so I was forced to listen enviously to all my friends talk about their after-school adventures with their furry friends. Recalling that now as an adult, I'm shocked by the collection of unfortunate endings most of their adventures had.

Imagine a child coming home from a day at school, excited to see their hamster because she has just had a litter of ten, tiny, hairless babies. The child hurries up the stairs, throws open the bedroom door, crosses the room to greet their new best friends and finds instead a scene of horror: A blood covered cage and one lone, rotund hamster. Turns out, the mother had killed all ten babies while the family was out for the day.

This is an experience I remember at least three people having while growing up. Turns out this is common among hamster owners. If the mother feels stressed or fearful, she will turn on her babies and often go full-blown cannibal on them. It is difficult to imagine a hamster remaining the family pet if it has traumatized the child with the half-eaten carcasses of its offspring. Furthermore, it is difficult for parents to teach children

to take responsible care of this pet when the miniscule model for motherhood literally eats the thing it is supposed to be caring for.

Conversely, the small children for whom rodents are usually bought are not known to be particularly gentle with them. How many times have you visited someone with a hamster only to see them dangle the flailing fluff around by one of its hind legs? How many times have you heard of them losing it somewhere in the mess of their bedroom after it darted away?

Speaking generally, all rodents—simply put—stink. Their urine smells acidic and stings the nostrils, so their cages need to be cleaned constantly. Even with diligent maintenance, a small room with an enclosure will reek of their acrid stench because, unlike with dogs where most of it happens outside, their territorial marking happens inside the home when they are let out of their cages. It would be totally inhumane to always keep them inside their cage, so owning a rodent basically forces you to accept all your furnishings will be stained with their urine.

Typically, people will compare their cost relative to that of more traditional family pets, like a cat or a dog, and truthfully it would be impossible to deny rodents aren't the "lower maintenance" option. Their enclosures require less space than a dog would need for equal amounts of exercise, and their food is cheaper. However, the main reason for getting one is usually their short lifespan, which is only about two to three years.

If having a pet is meant to add another member to the family, getting a rodent because the commitment is less permanent seems counter-intuitive. In fact, it seems more like parents begrudgingly buy these stinky little fur balls only because they know it won't be around for long.



Photo by Mercedes Deutscher

I like my pets small with big hearts

> How being a mouse mom changed my perception on rodents

Mercedes Deutscher
Social Media Coordinator

Pet rodents are smart, cute, and intelligent. If you give them the proper attention and love, they will return it tenfold. They are good pets for someone who needs something to care for. Each one requires varying methods of care or companionship.

Mice are a good beginner pet, or a good pet for someone who is fairly busy. Despite common misperception, they are clean animals. They're also quite clever, and are smart enough to learn tricks.

It was summer 2015 when I decided to adopt a fancy mouse.

I named her Arya (after the Game of Thrones character.) She had a soft brown and white coat, and big eyes.

Arya took some time to warm up to me. She'd nip my fingers if I got too close while feeding her a treat. Female mice are not as aggressive as their male counterparts, but can still be reserved and territorial around people.

After a week, Arya became more cordial toward me. She began to associate me with treats, and would soon start taking the treat directly out of the palm of my hand. After that, she would allow me to hold her in my hands without a struggle. From there, she would run up my arm and burrow by my neck. Our friendship had begun.

Mice, especially females, are social creatures. As much as Arya adored me, she needed a companion.

So, I came home with a larger cage and two female mice. Sticking with my Game of Thrones theme, I named the black and white mouse Sansa, and the white mouse Daenerys. I set up the two new mice (already bonded) in the new cage, and set them up next to Arya's cage. Gradually I moved Arya into the larger cage.

Cleaning time would be a hilarious catastrophe. I'd struggle to clean a large cage in the sink while also trying to avoid accidentally kicking a mouse that was running loose in a plastic ball.

Sadly, rodents don't live for too long. Daenerys succumbed unexpectedly only two months after bringing her home.

Sansa, having lost her original companion, was devastated. She would eat less and look around the cage hoping to find Daenerys hiding somewhere. She never did. Many people don't know that mice can fall victim to depression. Their depression can even become strong enough to kill them. Thankfully, Sansa had Arya.

The next year was blissful. They were there for me when I was lonely and when everything else was changing in my life. They loved me, but perhaps I loved them even more.

That's what made fall of 2016 so rough for me.

Last September, I went to clean the cage when I noticed a large lump growing on Sansa. I called my mom in a panic and asked if she could drive me to the vet. Most people would not bother taking a small animal to the vet, but I would do anything for Sansa.

The vet misdiagnosed Sansa with an abscess. I was to feed her antibiotics and the swelling would have gone down. Sansa hated the antibiotics. I would even mix it with apple juice or infuse it in a treat, but she struggled against taking her medicine.

Three weeks later, the swelling had not gone down. I noticed Sansa laying tired, too exhausted to climb up and cuddle with Arya. Her growth was opening. I rushed Sansa to the vet.

A different vet was in than a few weeks earlier. He gave me the grim prognosis that I knew deep down. Sansa had cancer, and the large lump was a tumour. I could have brought her home with medication. I could have sent her for surgery, which was expensive and very risky. Or I could put her to sleep.

It broke my heart, but Sansa didn't deserve to suffer. Even though she was a mouse, she deserved to pass with dignity.

After a quick and painless euthanasia, I brought her home. I buried her in my backyard and cuddled Arya. I don't think it took her long to figure out what happened. She was strong, perhaps stronger than I was.

Arya was strong and formidable, but even the strongest of us cannot win against time. In December, she passed peacefully in her sleep. I buried her next to her sister.

I miss my girls every day.

HUMOUR

- ✓ Top 5 \$200 books to fall asleep on
 - ✓ City Center becomes free-range wolf habitat
- And more!

Douglas security statement puts college students at ease

› ‘All your missing bikes go to bike heaven, don’t worry about it’

Klara Woldenga
Humour Editor

According to a recent survey, over 1500 bicycles are stolen in Vancouver every year, and in the summer months, nine bikes are stolen every day. Bike theft is just as much of a concern in Vancouver as it is here at Douglas College. While the Douglas College security team are able to retrieve a large number that go missing during the year, permanent bike theft is still an issue that they take very seriously. Last Monday, the Douglas College security team issued a statement in the hopes to put college students more at ease.

“It is our recent discovery that all bikes that are stolen and never returned simply go to bike heaven,” stated Mark Hander, head of the Douglas College security team. “In bike heaven there are huge, paved, flat areas for the bikes to roam around on. There are also tree-filled mountains for those bikes that wish for more adventure. In bike heaven all bikes get along with each other, regardless if they are fixie, mountain, or BMX. They always have enough oil for all their gears and there is no rust at all. They are very happy. Frankly, we should all hope our bikes end up in this magical place.”

This statement seemed to put a lot of cycle-enthusiasts at ease.

“When my bike went missing I was extremely upset; my way of life was put on hold,” stated Jared Lamment, biology major and daily bicycle commuter. “I really cared for it, and I’m still sad it’s gone, but I’m glad that my bike is in a better place. Bike heaven sounds like a good place for it to be; the place it deserves to be.”

“I’m super glad it exists,” stated Chris Jackson, psychology major and cycle marathoner. “Bikes do so much for us, they really deserve a nice afterlife.”

When asked whether or not unicycles are awarded the same afterlife, Hander was quick to respond.

“No, they are not bicycles, they are unicycles. Unicycles go straight to hell.”



Photo by Analyn Cuarto



Illustration by Ed Appleby

Local millennial manages 11 side-hustles on top of full-time employment

> Media praises go-getter attitude, fails to examine how broken our economy is

Rebecca Peterson
Assistant Editor

Douglas College alumni and double-major SFU graduate Ari Aman made headlines this week after it was revealed the 25-year-old has a whopping 11 avenues of self-employment and contract work on top of his full-time internship with a local online publication.

"He just does everything," said one of Aman's fellow graduates, known to the local community as "Homeless Helena." "He works two types of food delivery, runs a ride share, picks up shifts as a taxi driver, walks dogs, takes on translation and transcription work online, tutors, teaches a spin class and a kickboxing class on weekends... I really don't know how he does it."

Aman's girlfriend, Clarisse Barista, worries for Aman's health.

"I mean, I know why he's always working," she said as she served one of our Other Press reporters a grande triple-shot half-sweet vanilla latte, no foam. "He has a basement suite in Vancouver—like actually in the city. You can't have that and afford food without a little extra work... but I know it's taking a toll on him. Some of his clients from his webcam-model side-hustle have actually tracked us down to ask if he's okay, because he's looking a little peaky on-camera."

28-year-old Barista, we discovered, has a Master's degree in Historical



Conservation, and works full-time as an instructor at a local community college.

"The coffee shop thing is just my side-hustle," Barista told us. "I'm hoping one day to afford to move out of my parent's house, maybe rent a nice little studio apartment in Coquitlam. But that's a far-off dream right now."

We tracked down Aman's employer at his internship for comment.

"Oh yeah, we love Ari—the kid is just incredible," said Craig S. Lister in a phone interview last Thursday. "Really, really great, never complains. He gets

here and works the full 9 to 5, produces some frankly fantastic content. We're considering giving him a raise, actually."

The Other Press asked what Aman was being paid, and Lister was very clearly proud in his response.

"We're one of the few internships that pay anything, you know," said Lister. "Once a month we give our interns a \$50 Starbucks giftcard, which gets them about a week or two of free coffee—on us!—just to show our appreciation for all their hard work. But for Aman, we're thinking of raising that to \$55, just to give the kid a little extra boost. Like I

keep telling him, if he works here long enough, puts in that hustle we love to see from your generation, in a year or two he might make staff writer, who we pay very generously. Imagine getting \$11.75 an hour just for sitting around and writing, which a lot of these kids would probably be doing for free anyway. That's above minimum wage, you know!"

We tried to reach Aman for comment, however last the Other Press heard, he has taken two vacation days to enjoy a well-earned medically-induced coma to recover his strength.

Universe responds to complaints

> adds billions more stars

Klara Woldenga
Humour Editor

After billions of years, the universe has finally responded to complaints filed about the lack of visibility at night on Earth. Roughly 15,000 complaints have been issued towards the universe requesting more visibility after the sun sets. The universe has responded by stating they will add more stars in the sky to increase the amount of light during the hours between sunset and sunrise.

Frank Almend, a local Vancouver policeman, was one of the citizens of Earth who filed a complaint form years ago.

"A lot goes on at night," stated Almend. "We have electricity to light our areas, but lightbulbs eventually burn out. Stars, as far as I know, do not."

"I'm just glad they're finally doing something about it," stated concerned mother and wife, Martha Jakenson, who also filed a complaint. "I don't like to think about my son wandering around at night and not being able to see without the aid of expensive, complicated technology."

"Frankly, I don't know why they didn't do it sooner," states James Maron, local truck driver. "Does the universe even know how much hydro costs in this city? But, better late than never, I suppose."

The universe announced that, starting in 2019, there will be the added light of 2.5 trillion stars, which will give roughly the visibility equivalent of the sun on a cloudy day. The universe has issued an

apology on the lateness of its response, stating that their tardiness was due to a few issues, one of them being administrative.

"Our front desk guy was out for a few billion years," stated the universe. "You know how it is, being a huge, ominous being, things just get away from you sometimes."

Many scientists have responded with outrage about the decision, along with concerns for whether this increase of light will disturb normal animal migration patterns or crop growing cycles. The universe responded, stating that "Animals don't care, they're animals. They can handle it. If they have a problem with the light, I'm sure they've heard of sleep masks. As for the crops, have you ever heard a vegetable complain? I'm sure we're fine." Unfortunately, this has not quelled the scientists' concerns.

"How on earth do they think this is a good idea?" stated Kelly Ridder, head of the agricultural department at UBC. "They are going to disturb the entire natural cycle of the earth just because people don't want to buy flashlights, or drain the batteries on their phones."

The universe responded to these concerns, stating that it was older than all the scientists put together, so it believes it has enough experience to make this important, crowd-fuelled decision.

"I've been around the block a few times; before the concept of blocks even existed," it stated. "I think I know what I'm doing."

“We have electricity to light our areas, but lightbulbs eventually burn out. Stars, as far as I know, do not.” -Frank Almend





Top 5 \$200 books to fall asleep on

› A review of the season's best and most expensive pillows

Sophie Isbister
Contributor

We all know what students love the most: Spending a month's worth of rent on books we're barely going to read. When buying your books this semester, stretch your dollar and make sure they fulfill a dual purpose. Check out this list of texts, available at the Douglas College bookstore, which I have handily ranked so you can select the best one upon which to rest your weary head.

5. **"Business Essentials, 8th Canadian Edition"** (\$149.95)
Coming in fifth on the list, this soft-cover beauty may be slim, but it makes up for its lack in size with its slightly lower price tag. You may think that a smaller book may be less comfortable to fall asleep on, but it is the perfect toting size if you're looking for a book to sleep on while you're commuting between campuses, or on your break at work.

4. **"Organizational Behavior, 10th Edition"** (\$169.95)
Another value item on the list, our number four-ranked book to help you catch some zzz's is this fascinating read (well, it might be fascinating—we wouldn't know, we've only slept on it). After tax, it runs just shy of \$200, but that's still cheaper than the Polar Tropic™ Body Pillow (\$229.99), the most expensive pillow available at Sleep Country. You'd be foolish not to purchase this book in order to lay your head on its hard cover, and temporarily escape the absurdity of your own existence.

3. **"Psychological Testing: A Practical Introduction"** (\$191.95)
I'll be honest, I was a little hesitant to put this book on this list. I worried that the bold red and blue cover design could contribute to a more awake state

in myself and my peers. But once I opened it, and felt the cool, ink-scented pages on my cheek, I fell into the most relaxing siesta I've enjoyed all week. For that reason, this book comes in at a solid number three on my list. I would definitely fall asleep on this book again, and I would recommend it to any fellow students looking to fall asleep on a book that, after tax, will only cost you slightly more than \$200.

2. **"Foundations of Athletic Training"** (\$190.50)
Even before taking the plastic cover off of this magnificent masterpiece, I can already tell it's a book that I'll have a great time sleeping on. It's one of the thickest of the bunch, giving a nice lift to your head whether you choose to lay on it in an open or a closed position. The proper alignment of your skeleton during the course of any nap, or even full sleep, that you take on this book will leave you feeling refreshed and ready to read even more books which you will inevitably fall asleep on.

1. **"Nonprofit Marketing"** (\$218.95)
I sure hope the creators of this bank-breaking tome are turning a profit, because there is a very good reason that this book tops the list of best \$200 books to sleep on. It costs the most of the lot, but you get exactly what you pay for: A hard surface that, while not quite as comfortable as a pillow, will definitely do the trick to prop up your skull once it has been pumped too full of information to sustain consciousness. Its' stark white cover, and possibly the words contained within, will lull you into a gentle slumber, allowing you to momentarily forget that the average Canadian student will owe over \$25,000 in student debt by the time they are thrust into an overcrowded job market with dwindling prospects.



Illustration by Cara Seccafien

City Center becomes free-range wolf habitat

› Hundreds of North American grey wolves now run free in Surrey

Greg Waldock
Staff Writer

Wolves have been successfully reintroduced to the Surrey downtown core, the BC Parks Services happily reported Monday morning. Around 300 of them, most of them large enough to kill a human, now wander free and unchecked in the City Center and Scottsdale areas. They're expected to grow to a population of several thousand and spread across the Lower Mainland, focused mostly in suburbs and Surrey's fast-growing city center.

"We expect absolutely minimal lethal risk to humans," said Park Ranger Tess Guy, optimistically. "Casualties are expected to be only around 50 people devoured by wolves per year, and even then, most of them would just be children."

The wolves being reintroduced are North American grey wolves, which are as large as the mastiff dog breed, and considerably more dangerous. They hunt in packs of up to dozens, and can take down prey as large as a woolly mammoth. They were common in the Lower Mainland until the end of the last Ice Age, leading some scientists to suspect a link between wolves in Vancouver and global climate change. The Hakai Institute, a biodiversity research group, points to the fact that water levels were tens of metres lower worldwide when these wolves

were at their peak population ten thousand years ago. They released a statement last month, saying that "we never considered just throwing more wolves at the global warming problem. We aren't one hundred percent on the science, but damn if we're going to argue with a city that has 300 wolves."

In an attempt to allow the wolves to live a more natural life in the big city, none of them were implanted with trackers. All 300 are now totally unaccounted for and could be anywhere, though they'll likely be unable to cross the Fraser due to traffic and lack of game on the bridges. In fact, some critics of the reintroduction program pointed out that since most typical wolf prey no longer live in Surrey, humans could be targeted more than usual. BC Park Services responded by saying they "forgot about the whole food problem, but they should survive by hunting raccoons and people at the end of bus lineups." According to scientists, the wolves are likely to never come in conflict with the geese that currently own most of Coquitlam out of a combination of fear and mutual respect.

Pet owners are warned to keep their cats and dogs inside during hunting nights, as cats will be hunted and dogs may defect to join their ancestors. Children are encouraged to do "pretty much whatever" at night, as the city aims at appealing mostly to small families.

DSU Aboriginal Students' Collective Presents

Weeks of

ReconciliACTION

SUNDAY

SEPT
24

Walk for Reconciliation

9am - Downtown Vancouver - 650 Cambie Street
Join us in this positive movement to build better relationships among Indigenous peoples and all Canadians.

TUESDAY

SEPT
26

Orange Shirt Day Tabling

10:30am-2:30pm - New West Concourse

Indigenous Students' Welcome

2:30pm - New West Aboriginal Gathering Place

THURSDAY

SEPT
28

Orange Shirt Day Tabling

10:30am-2:30pm - Coquitlam AB Atrium

Indigenous Students' Welcome

2:30pm - Coquitlam Small Cafeteria

SATURDAY

SEPT
30

Orange Shirt Day

Please wear ORANGE to honour the children who survived the Indian Residential Schools and remember those that didn't.

TUESDAY

Oct
03

Sisters in Spirit Vigil

10:00am-2:00pm - Coquitlam AB Atrium

A movement for social change and a day to honour the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada.

WEDNESDAY

Oct
04

Sisters in Spirit Vigil

10:00am-2:00pm - New West Concourse

A movement for social change and a day to honour the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls in Canada.

DSU
BCFS LOCAL 6